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THE NEWSPAPER FOR CHATHAM, GILLINGHAM, ROCHESTER, STROOD, RAINHAM & DISTRICT



Issue No 97
Available from Wednesday,
July 22, 2009

NHS

Eastern and Coastal Kent

protect...



you and...



your family



for summer...

50
top
tips

stay safe for summer

SPENDING TIME OUTDOORS IS A GREAT WAY TO REVITALISE BODY AND SOUL. HERE ARE YOUR HEALTH'S TOP **50** TIPS ON HOW TO DO IT SAFELY

Stay safe in the sun

As soon as the warm weather arrives we all want to go out and enjoy it – and why shouldn't we? We all spend far too much time in air conditioned offices gazing wistfully out of the window.

But whether we are enjoying some sun in the Med or in our back garden we still need to protect ourselves.

Skin cancer is one of the most common cancers in the UK. Right now, around 1,700 people are being treated for malignant melanoma and other skin cancers in the eastern and coastal Kent region.

Most skin cancers are caused by damage from sunburn and could easily be prevented.

1. Apply sunblocks or sunscreens with high sun protection factors (at least factor 15).
2. Take extra care with children – use factor 30 plus. For babies use factor 50 plus.
3. Apply generously and reapply frequently, especially after activities such as swimming or towelling.
4. Wear a wide-brimmed hat to reduce exposure to the face, eyes, head and neck.
5. Limit the amount of time you spend in the sun, particularly between 11am and 3pm.

6. Cover skin with clothing giving good protection - examples are long sleeved shirts and loose clothing with a close weave.
7. Seek shade, but remember sunburn can occur even when in partial shade or when cloudy.
8. Wear wrap-around sunglasses.
9. Remember certain prescribed drugs, medicines, foods, cosmetics and plant materials can also make people more sensitive to sunlight.

Coping with sunburn

Sunburn is when your skin overheats and becomes red and painful and may later peel or blister.

If you get sunburn:

- Cool the skin down by dabbing it with a cool, wet towel or tissue.
- If really bad, take a quick cold shower.
- Don't go back into the sun until you've healed.
- Drink plenty of fluids to replace the water lost through sweating and to cool down.
- Apply calamine or after-sun lotion.
- For adults, painkillers such as paracetamol or ibuprofen can help relieve pain and reduce swelling.

Be prepared for a heatwave

IT'S not just the sun that can be our foe as well as our friend. Continued humidity, especially during a heatwave, can be dangerous too.

The heat can affect anyone, but some people run a greater risk of serious harm, especially the very young, older people and those with serious illnesses.

It can make heart and respiratory problems worse and in extreme cases can lead to heat stroke, which can be fatal.

To stay safe:

10. Keep an eye on children, vulnerable friends and neighbours.
11. Keep plenty of water to hand and stay in the shade where possible.
12. Shut and shade windows when it is hotter outside and open them for ventilation when cooler.
13. Avoid doing things that need lots of effort like sport, DIY or gardening.
14. People with serious health problems (for example heart conditions), should avoid going out in the heat, especially between 11am and 3pm.

15. Drink cold drinks like water or fruit juice regularly and avoid tea, coffee and alcohol.

16. Stay tuned to the weather forecast and plan ahead with supplies – think of elderly neighbours who may need help with supplies.

17. Identify the coolest room in the house to cool down or sleep in.

18. People with respiratory problems should stay inside during the hottest part of the day.



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Helping you make
the right choice

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has got more Soul

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SPORT...

Round-up of all
the local action

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CHANGE IS OVERDUE IN PARKING POLICY

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yourkenttv.co.uk



MAGIC: Wizard-in-training Harry Potter makes his sixth big screen appearance. Search 'film'

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POWER POP TO THE PEOPLE

Energetic power pop quartet McFly rocked a capacity crowd of 4,500 at Rochester Castle Gardens on Friday night, performing chart hits including Obviously, One for the Radio and Lies. Their set - watched by thousands of screaming teenage fans - was the third night of the four-gig summer concerts programme. Tribute band the Counterfeit Stones got the ball rolling last Wednesday, followed by Jools Holland. The concerts were brought to a close by the popular Castle Proms night.

*For more on the concerts turn to page three and visit www.yourkenttv.co.uk

EXCLUSIVE

BY GARETH DORRIAN

PENNY-pinching council chiefs are refusing to install parking machines that give change, claiming new ticket terminals would pose a health and safety risk to car park users.

Medway Council operates 120 machines across the towns. Not one offers change, meaning motorists without the correct coins are often forced to pay over the odds.

Council bosses say machines giving change are too large, taking up "a large percentage of the path", and would be a target for thieves and vandals.

But the claims have been attacked by motorist groups. The Association of British Drivers' Nigel Humphries said: "It's disgraceful. Local authorities put charges at awkward amounts, such as £1.05 instead of £1, which can guarantee to get a bit more money out of someone."

"At the very least the amount should be a round number."

"It's a nasty trick. Even making you put your licence plate number in the machine is antisocial, because you can't give your ticket to someone else if you leave early."

"There's not much courtesy left in Britain and the little there is is being destroyed by mean-spirited local authorities. Everything they do is aimed at making drivers feel guilty."

But a Medway Council official said: "Machines in car parks and on the street can-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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Due to an unprecedented demand James is back on the tools
Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. To book an appointment with
the guy that trains national champions call 880900



WHAT'S ON & WATCH

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TOP TV CLIPS



1 Dolly Rockers brought some glamour to the weekend's Thanet Pride event in Margate. **Search 'Dolly'**



2 Joanna Lumley was guest of honour when the Gurkhas were given the Freedom of Folkestone. **Search 'Joanna'**



3 First Battalion The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment march through Canterbury on Saturday. **Search 'soldiers'**

SEE OUR SISTER PAPERS KENT ON SUNDAY AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT

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SNAPPING: This picture was taken just before Alex Turner was handcuffed and led away by the police

Arrested – for being too tall

A PHOTOGRAPHER has been arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act for being 'too tall'.

Amateur snapper Alex Turner was in Chatham High Street when he was handcuffed and carted off to a police van before finally being officially released.

Writing on his blog, Mr Turner explained how the scandal started and how it ended with him submitting an official complaint to the force's Professional Standards Department.

He said: "I went down to Chatham High Street to take some pictures of the flyover being demolished."

Vigilant

In his complaint, he wrote that on July 8, a police officer "placed me under arrest in Chatham High Street."

"The officer stated I was being arrested under section 44 of the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2000 and read me my rights. As I was arrested I was handcuffed. I asked why she had arrested me."

"She stated because I had taken a photograph of her and that she considered this to be an unlawful obstruction. I was detained in a police van for around 20 minutes."

"The arrest was made after I photographed her while waiting as she

■ BY CHRIS MURPHY

spoke to a colleague on the phone," he wrote.

Mr Turner was initially stopped by two men in the High Street saying they were from Medway Council. They called the community officers who arrested him for being a potential terrorist.

Mr Turner was searched before being 'de-arrested'.

He said the female officer said she was "intimidated" by Mr Turner's size – he is 5ft 11ins tall and weighs about 12 stone.

Afterwards, he wrote: "She offered a verbal apology. I asked if I was free to continue to take pictures in the High Street, she informed me I was."

Assistant Chief Constable Allyn Thomas said: "Our officers are extremely vigilant and their primary concern is the safety of the public."

"A police officer responded to a report concerning a man who was taking photographs of buildings and people in Chatham town centre."

"When challenged by the police officer the man refused to give personal details."

After Mr Turner complained, Kent Police referred the matter to the Independent Police Complaints Commission, which has sent it back the Kent Police for investigation.

• Email yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Three await sentence for drugs charges

THREE men are due to be sentenced later this month after pleading guilty to a number of drug offences.

Alan Downes, 36, Craig Ethridge, 23, and Zac Wallace, 19, all of Chatham, appeared before Maidstone Crown Court on Monday, when they pleaded guilty to all charges.

Downes, of Sturla Road, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to supply a class A drug (crack cocaine and heroin), possession of a class B drug (cannabis) and possession of a weapon (stun gun).

Ethridge and Wallace, both of Thorold Road, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to supply a class A drug (crack cocaine and heroin).

The trio will re-appear before Maidstone Crown Court on Friday, July 31.

Get backstage pass for tour of theatre

THEATRE-fans will be given a rare opportunity to see behind the scene of Medway's biggest cultural venues this weekend.

The Central Theatre, Chatham, will run free backstage tours this Sunday.

The free tours pass through the stage, lighting and control box and dressing rooms.

The tours start at 10am, with the last one setting off at 3.30pm. Tours last for approximately 40 minutes and there is no need to book.

Hear story behind award-winning film

FILMMAKER Paul Watson will tell the story of how he shot award-winning documentary Rain in My Heart – the hard-hitting story of four Medway alcoholics.

Mr Watson will be joined by gastroenterologist consultant Dr Gray Smith-Laing at Medway Maritime Hospital's postgraduate centre from 7pm tonight.

Members can book their place on 01634 825292 or by emailing the membership office at kristy.deroback@medway.nhs.uk

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Swine flu not cause of seven-year-old's death

Tests yet to find reason boy died

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

A SEVEN-year-old Medway school-boy who passed away last week died of natural causes, it has been confirmed.

The Strood youngster – who has not been named – was initially thought to have contracted the deadly swine flu virus.

National newspapers reported that a Medway boy had become one of the youngest children to die from the lethal H1N1 strain.

But a spokesman for Medway Coroner's Office confirmed that the English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School pupil's death was completely unrelated to the virus.

They said: "The only information we can give out at this time is that the boy's death had nothing to do with swine flu. The post-mortem report shows he dies of natural causes."

The boy's death created an outpouring of grief from his fellow pupils, parents, teachers and the wider community.

Comments posted on our website include: "This little boy was in the same class as my son and I can't express enough my sincere condo-



IN MOURNING: Pupils and staff at English Martyrs' Roman Catholic School are grief-stricken by death of the little boy

lences to his family. He was much loved and is missed by his classmates."

Medway Council's children and adult services director Rose Collinson held a press conference outside the council's Chatham headquarters on Friday – three days after the young pupil is thought to have died.

She said: "Our first thoughts are with the boy, his family and all of his friends. We want to make sure his family have privacy to grieve."

"The Health Protection Agency has said the earliest indications are that he did not die of swine flu. We simply do not know the cause of death and cannot speculate at this time."

"It is my understanding that he did not feel

well at school on Tuesday and that he died quite suddenly."

"As soon as the school heard of his death the entire school community was informed."

"The school remained open as normal, as was the advice from the HPA. Their investigation into the boy's death is incomplete."

Yvonne Doyle, regional director of public health, NHS South East Coast, added: "We are aware of the case of a seven-year-old who died on Tuesday. The child was admitted to hospital. The cause of death has not been confirmed and we are awaiting test results."

A remembrance Mass was held at the English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church yesterday.

Thousands storm castle to see McFly

POP rockers McFly performed a storming set at Rochester Castle during the annual summer concerts.

The chart-topping quartet headlined the four-night concert's third night, playing to a sell-out crowd. More than 2,000 teenage fans – and a few thousand less enthusiastic parents – crammed into Rochester Castle Gardens for the gig.

The four McFly boys did not disappoint their adoring fans, working their way through the bulk of their back catalogue.

Rolling Stones cover band Counterfeit Stones drew a near capacity crowd for their opening night show, supported by the world's foremost thrash mandolin player, former Young Ones star Ade Edmondson.

Jools Holland made his seventh consecutive Castle Concerts appearance on Friday night and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra played at the rousing Castle Proms night on Saturday.

VIEW THIS CLIP ON

yourkenttv.co.uk

Your LOCAL TV ONLINE



See footage of McFly performing at Rochester Castle. Search 'McFly'

Change long overdue, say overcharged motorists

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

not offer change for two reasons; many machines are vandalised and the size of the machine required to give change would make this a health and safety risk to users of the car park.

"The area needed to provide these would require all car parks to be redesigned and the machines would take up a large percentage of the path on the street."

Tariffs

"Machines that give change are considerably bigger and need mains power. They would not allow enough room for prams or wheelchairs to pass safely."

"The council has taken every measure to ensure Medway's parking facilities are clean and easy to use. Our car parks are inspected annually by Park Mark, which ensures they are run in a safe and fair manner. All tariffs are clearly displayed on all machines."

• **What do you think? Write to the editor, Yourmedway, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. Or email yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk.**



Airport celebrates 75th year with free open day

ROCHESTER Airport is holding a free open day this weekend to celebrate the site's 75th aviation anniversary.

Highlights of the day include flights in a Dragon Rapide plane and displays from Kent police's helicopter, motorcycle and dog teams.

Model helicopter enthusiast Len Mount – winner of 19 national flying championships – will be among those to display their model aircrafts.

A host of vintage and classic motorcycles and cars will also be driven on to the Maidstone Road site.

The airport's operations manager Kelvin Carr said he was looking forward to Sunday's festivities.

He said: "We can't wait for the anniversary celebrations to begin."

"Our thanks go to the local community for their continued support during the past and future years."

"Without it this airport would have become another West Malling; once closed never to be opened again."

The site first became used for aviation purposes in September, 1933, when Rochester City Council bought the land from a farmer to build a municipal airport.

One month later the Short brothers, who had started building aircraft on the Isle of Sheppey in 1909, asked for permission to lease the land for test flying.

In 1979, GEC took over management of the site, maintaining two grass runways.

This remained the case until four years ago when a group of flying enthusiasts negotiated a short-term lease with the council, which is due to expire in January.

The open day runs from 10.30am to 3.30pm. Parking is limited.

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Fifty years showing sheep and counting

AT Nash Court, Westwell, George Horne runs the oldest registered flock of the famous Romney sheep.

An acknowledged expert, he received a special presentation to mark his half century of showing and he also celebrated winning the breed championship in the main livestock parade ring with his daughters Catherine and Louise.

The supreme championship again returned to Lewes with another magnificent Southdown from the flock of Sarah Harmer with a Charrolais from Gloucester as reserve.

But Kent exhibitors did well with Joe Phillips from Petham, Canterbury, having the champion Romney ram, Viv Miles from Benenden the champion British Down with David Masters from Goudhurst reserve, Mr and Mrs Ed Lovejoy from Woodchurch the best Poll Dorset, Gail Shrubsall from Otterden, Faversham, the best other pure bred with her Welsh Badger Face Torwen, and Louise Brown from Ramsgate the champion Jacob.

Cattle champion milks the applause

THE supreme cattle championship again left the county with the dairy champion Jersey from Norfolk catching the judges eye and pipping the beef champion, a giant Simmental from East Sussex, for top prize.

But both were run close in the final decision, with a British Blue from Andrew Price of Maidstone reserve beef champion and a Holstein from the Benenden herd of John Reynolds the dairy reserve.

In the British Blondes section all the awards were collected by Egerton-based Hilary Jones and Ben Garrett.

May Henderson from Throwley was again among the winners from her Dexter herd, with Di Smith from Alkham, Dover, adding to her collection of reserve rosettes.

John Reynolds took the silverware in the Holstein classes beating veteran Folkestone exhibitor Jim Warnock into second spot.

Champion Jersey went to Sonny Warren of Guston, near Dover, with the Etteridge family from Norfolk in reserve spot and it was something of a shock when the supreme champion judge selected the latter as his overall winner.

Winner's pig effort

PAULINE Banks from Sevenoaks took the pig championship with her large white crosses but had to settle for reserve spot beaten by a Berkshire from Charles Bull from Peasmarsh in the open classes.

The 80th Kent County Show over the weekend was as spectacular as ever and the message from Detling was loud and clear – forget the rumours, we will be back...

■ BY MIKE BENNETT

THE sights, sounds and smells of the traditional Kent County Agricultural Show will survive and thrive despite fears it could be threatened with closure.

That was the strong message from show chairman George Jessel on Sunday after three fantastic days at Detling when he stressed that despite the economic recession, expansion of ploughing matches, game and country shows, and the threat of a major new event at Folkestone racecourse next summer, they will continue.

He said: "Forget the rumours. We will be back and the dates are fixed from July 16 to 18, 2010. The Royal Show may have been the last, but we will continue".

He accepts that after a £160,000 loss last year the organisers were forced to prune budgets. But they still managed to showcase Kent and all that it has to offer in the biggest three-day event of the year.

"The focus is always on agriculture with the animals and associated country crafts and displays.

"But we aim to provide a great family day out with something for all. Flower and food tents plus arcades of shopping for the ladies, veteran and vintage vehicles for the men, rides and attractions for children, and arena and equestrian events for all.

Improved

"To say that farmers no longer support the show is nonsense. Sheep and goat entries were well up and 55 per cent of the county's farmers were here actively involved in the show as exhibitors or stewards.

"We had 70 new Kent business exhibitors this year and many did good trade and have already booked to return next summer. We have improved the traffic problems and we will do more for the future."

As a deputy to Lord Lieutenant of Kent and a farmer he is passionate about the county and in his role as head of the premier agricultural showcase was delighted with the support of farmers and growers from across the Garden of England to provide a shop window for their skills to 90,000 plus visitors.

None did more to confirm the determination to plan for the future than the magnificent efforts of young farmers in an expanded area.

With a team of more than 400 from schools and open clubs across the county they represented the largest gathering of young people

The show will go on



DAY AT THE RACES: Competitors gathered from far and wide at the county's annual agricultural extravaganza

showing cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry and rabbits in Europe.

That fact was noted by royal guests the Earl and Countess of Wessex who requested they be given a tour of the area during their visit on Friday.

They met many of the youngsters as they were escorted by show chairman Eve Hart and county Young Farmers Club chairman Stuart Jackman.

Miss Hart said: "It was an honour for us all and they were impressed by the efforts of all



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ANIMAL MAGIC: Youngsters enjoyed the largest display of livestock held anywhere in Europe



SHOWCASE: Display of vintage farming machinery was a timely reminder of the county's rich rural heritage

the young people of Kent".

That praise continued at the prize giving on Sunday afternoon when Mr Jessel told them they all played an important role in the future of rural industry.

He said: "The royalty were really chuffed that you were all so brilliant and on behalf of Kent County Agricultural Society I thank you all for participating."

Judges had faced tough tasks as the clubs produced top-quality stock in the rings.

The coveted trophy for most points over the three days of competition went again to Homewood School, Tenterden, but this year by a single point ahead of Westlands School with Angley at Cranbrook in third.

Homewood also took special awards for the champion turnout lamb, the champion pen of lambs, reserve champion pen of pigs, reserve champion rabbit and four trophies for their calves.

Westlands had the champion poultry, champion pure bred and cross bred beef calves, the champion dairy calf and won the prize for the best presented club.

Almost every team won something as the honours were spread across the county with the under threat Ashford North school farm producing the champion turn-out lamb and collecting the cup for the best club display, Brockhill, Hythe, picked up an armful of trophies, and Ashford Young Farmers showed both the supreme turnout champion and the champion turn-out lamb.

They were all the finest examples of farmyard stock but over in the countryside area there were more exotic creatures like reindeer and wallaby being shown by the Fagg family from Bethersden, surrounded by dancing sheep, working gun dogs, hawking demonstrations and ferret and terrier racing.

Pavilion packed out for 80th anniversary

TO celebrate 80 years of the show the Kent pavilion was packed with a colourful and diverse display of history remembering the past eight decades.

Farming World from Faversham illustrated progress through the years and the Friends of the Museum of Kent Life from Maidstone highlighted old domestic items with their modern day equivalent.

West Kent WIs displayed changes in home economics plus cooking and flower demonstrations, and the Kent Guild of Spinners and Weavers impressed with their craft.

Brook Agricultural Museum showed a vintage plough, five bushel hop baskets, a cultivator and chaff-cutter from their collection, and the National Fruit Collection at Brogdale concentrated on the history of cherries.

Hadlow shows off its award-winning flora

FRESH from winning the gold medal and best sustainable garden awards at the Hampton Court Palace Flower Show, Hadlow College were again among the honours at the Kent show.

They took the gold award for best outdoor garden design and the gold for sweet pea exhibits.

Their main display took the Geerings award for the best agricultural stand for the second year running, and they also supported the NFU and Kent Agricultural Society in the Why Farming Matters area, as well as competing in the livestock and equine classes.

Spokesman Pat Crawford said: "Hadlow is one of the UK's top three land-based colleges providing the skills, training and knowledge for those planning a career in one of the most important industries in Kent".



BROLLY GOOD SHOW: The Earl and Countess of Wessex were given a guided tour of the show on the Friday

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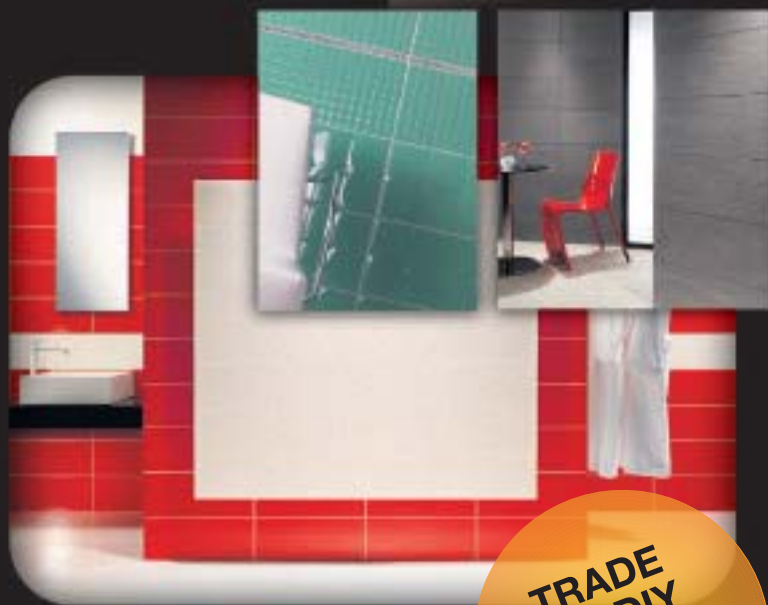
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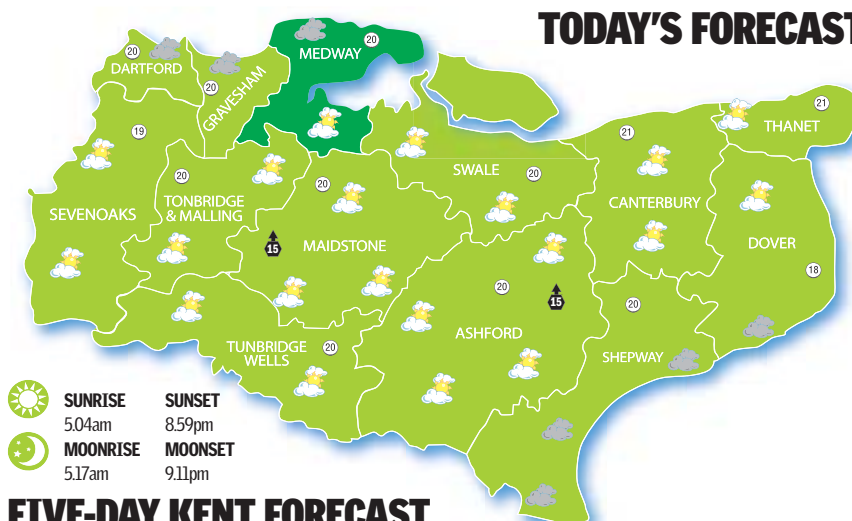
WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	3:58pm	6.4m
	Sunday	4:40pm	6.3m
Dover	Saturday	2:21pm	7.0m
	Sunday	3:02pm	6.8m
Dungeness	Saturday	2:12pm	8.0m
	Sunday	2:54pm	7.8m
Ramsgate	Saturday	2:51pm	5.3m
	Sunday	3:32pm	5.2m
Sheerness	Saturday	3:48pm	6.0m
	Sunday	4:30pm	6.0m
Whitstable	Saturday	3:55pm	5.5m
	Sunday	4:36pm	5.5m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	19°C	Madrid	32°C
Athens	36°C	New York	26°C
Barcelona	27°C	Paris	23°C
Beijing	31°C	Rome	26°C
Bombay	27°C	Sydney	20°C
Cape Town	25°C	Tenerife	27°C
Cardiff	17°C	Tokyo	29°C
Gibraltar	23°C	Vancouver	22°C
Hong Kong	29°C	Warsaw	20°C
Las Palmas	27°C	Wellington	-



	SUNRISE	SUNSET
	5.04am	8.59pm
	MOONRISE	MOONSET
	5.17am	9.11pm

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	22°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	20°C	Gravesend	22°C	21°C	20°C	21°C	21°C
Canterbury	24°C	21°C	21°C	21°C	21°C	Maidstone	23°C	21°C	20°C	20°C	21°C
Chatham	22°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	20°C	Ramsgate	24°C	21°C	21°C	21°C	21°C
Dartford	22°C	21°C	20°C	21°C	21°C	Rochester	22°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	20°C
Dover	21°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	20°C	Sevenoaks	21°C	19°C	18°C	18°C	20°C
Faversham	22°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	20°C	Sittingbourne	22°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	20°C
Folkestone	21°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	20°C	Tonbridge	23°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	21°C
Gillingham	22°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	20°C	Tun Wells	23°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	21°C



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Life's a beach thanks to sand investment

A TOUCH of the seaside has been brought to The Strand – in the form of several tonnes of sand.

The Bermuda beach-feel was paid for out of two Gillingham North Liberal Democrat councillors' ward improvement funds.

Cllr Andy Stamp said: "We always try to make the limited funding we receive each year stretch as far as possible. People visit The Strand in their thousands over the summer months, so we're really pleased that children and adults alike will be able to enjoy the sand there this year."

Cllr Cathy Sutton added: "The council used to arrange for sand to be dropped off at the Strand every year but this policy ended a long time ago."

"It's great that we're able to provide a bit of fun for families, especially given that many people are struggling through the recession and may be cutting back on day trips to the coast this year."

Medway Council provides each of its 55 councillors with an annual fund of £3,000 to allocate for small projects in their ward which benefit the community.

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QUESTION & ANSWER

CAI ROBBINS



Q Tell us a little about yourself.

A I'm a third-year drama and theatre studies student, although I have currently taken a year out of my four-year course to fill the role of vice president (Sports) at Kent Union and vice president (Kent) for UMSA – the Universities at Medway Students Association.

Q What is UMSA and what does it do?

A UMSA is the students' organisation for the Universities of Greenwich, Kent, Canterbury Christ Church and Mid Kent College at the shared Universities at the Medway campus in Chatham Maritime.

The Association provides representation, activities and wide-ranging services to its 9,000 students and is the fastest growing student organisation in the UK.

The Association is a partnership between the students' unions from the Universities of Greenwich, Kent and Canterbury Christ Church.

It has won national recognition for its work, is accredited with Investors in People status and is managed by Kent Union.

Q What is your role in UMSA?

A Within this I am mainly a student representative and it is my job to ensure the universities are listening, understanding and act-

ing on the needs of the students.

I also represent students at Medway Council meetings, ensuring the good relationship between the community and the students is maintained.

Q What are the highlights of UMSA's calendar?

A Key events in the UMSA calendar include the Medway Boat Race, which sees teams from all three universities go head-to-head on the water.

To see who's the best on dry land we have Medway Varsity, which sees teams from the Canterbury and Greenwich campuses compete with us in Medway.

Other events include Welcome Week, in which UMSA welcomes all the new students to the campus and the community by providing activities, tours and help moving in.

Q How good is the relationship between each university associated with UMSA?

A All of the Universities fully support the Association and the Association acts as the body that pulls all the institutions together.

There is a lot of banter between students on the Medway campus, where all students embrace in rivalry between the universities.

But if you ask a student studying at the Medway campus which University they go, many will say 'Medway', showing just how close the students from each institution are.

Q What are the advantages of UMSA as opposed to being fully independent?

A The Association is run by the students at Medway for the students at Medway; however the campus and the partnership are still young, and are still learning.

Being a partnership organisation between the other universities student unions means the UMSA can draw on the best bits of each partner and apply it to the Medway campus - maximising the benefits to students.

Q What do you like to do in your spare time?

A When I do get time to myself I'll always make sure I'm not too far away from some sort of sport to watch or take part in.

Q What are your career goals?

A I'd like to be educating and developing the skills of children through sport abroad or working within the student movement here in the UK.

Whatever it is I end up doing, I simply hope I will be the best I can be.

Q Tell us something about you most people do not know.

A I've sung in Birmingham symphony hall and have been told I have voice the world should hear – think the bloke might have been a bit deaf, but never mind, it was nice to hear.

Q&A

The vice president of Universities at Medway Students' Association spoke to **Simon Robinson** about her role at UMSA, how the association benefits the students of Medway, and about her stellar singing voice

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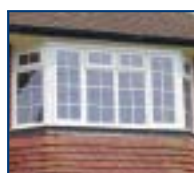
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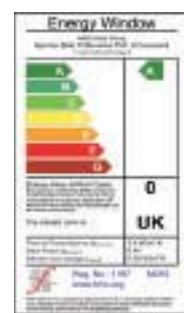
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EDITOR'S CHOICE

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We miss you, Marie, but this one's for you

BY EMILY HALL

A WOMAN lost her 22-year battle with cancer just two days before she was due to run the Race for Life.

Tragic Marie Twyman died on July 10, aged just 29, yet her friends still managed to don 1980s gear and run the event in her honour.

Marie was initially diagnosed with cancer at the age of seven and had an operation to remove a tumour from her shoulder.

But after going to Portugal to work as a holiday rep in her early 20s she began suffering blinding headaches and had to return home.

She was diagnosed with a brain tumour and breast cancer and for the past five years had been undergoing constant treatment.

Her best friend, Clare Cockell, 27, who is manager of The Reef spa and salon in Gabriels Hill, Maidstone, said: "Marie and I went to college in Canterbury together.

"She was fine up until she became a holiday rep, when she started getting headaches and had to come home. She found out she had a brain tumour in 2004 and had to have three operations.

"She also got breast cancer, which they couldn't treat until they had finished treating the brain tumour. It was hard for her. Her mum had cancer, too, and didn't die that long ago.

"The doctors told her they couldn't get all of it, but she remained positive.

"She had the last operation in March this year, and we had planned to do the Race for Life in Herne Bay, but four weeks ago she couldn't use her left side.

"I saw her two or three weeks ago and when



WE DID IT: Reef manager Clare Cockell (centre) was joined by her mum Annette and co-worker Jemma Haywood (left)

she got out of bed she fell over and was slurring. Even then she was still happy, but it became obvious she wasn't going to be able to run the race. Marie had always done the Race for Life with her mum and I have done it with her for the last three years. She loved it and couldn't stop talking about this year's race.

"She was saying she'd do it even if we had to push her round, but she never got the chance."

Single Marie died at the Pilgrims Hospice in her home city of Canterbury. Her friends – including Clare, her mum Annette, 50, and fellow Reef worker Jemma Haywood, 23 – ran the

race and raised more than £1,000 for Cancer Research UK. Clare said: "The donations and support have been truly amazing. When I first set up our fundraising page I set the target at £1,000 and I remember Marie saying, 'You've set a really high target', so I changed it to £500.

"I am so pleased we have now reached that high target for her. She deserves it as she was such an inspiration.

"She always had a smile on her face, no matter what. She will be hugely missed."

Visit www.raceforlifespensorme.org/thereef to add your donation.

Force backs recruitment of gypsies to end mistrust

GYPSIES and travellers are being recruited by Kent Police to ensure the force represents the community it serves.

Officers believe that by giving jobs to people from the minority group they will be able to smooth what is often a rocky relationship between the two sides.

However, some are concerned tick-box targets could lower standards if vacancies are given to gypsies and travellers rather than the best candidates.

Earlier this year a report by the Association of Police Authorities (APA) suggested forces should seek to recruit from under-represented groups.

Assistant Chief Constable of Kent Police Allyn Thomas said: "We seek to recruit as widely as possible and welcome applicants from all ethnic backgrounds.

Legitimacy

"We have a gypsy and traveller action group which advises us. Recruiting officers from a variety of ethnic groups enhances the legitimacy of policing in the eyes of those communities."

The initiative has been backed by campaigners for travellers' equality, including the Canterbury Gypsy Support Group.

Vice-chairman Joe Jones said it was important his people were given the same career opportunities, but didn't think there would be a rush to sign up.

He said: "Gypsies and travellers are far from being policed in the real sense. The only time we meet is when our camps are raided or we are being made to move on.

"We are the most misunderstood group of people in the British Isles and nobody really cares about us, but by the police looking to recruit us it shows that we have finally arrived in society."

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Recycling: let's get together

■ BY JENNA PUDELEK

CALLS are growing for a universal kerbside recycling scheme to be provided across the county.

At the moment provision is patchy, with each of the 12 district and borough councils and Medway's unitary authority offering a different service.

Kent County Council has said that current provision "could be better" and is asking residents for their views about a countywide doorstep recycling scheme.

Steve Dawe, spokesman for the Green Party in Kent, said: "It remains a major problem to get councils to collect glass and plastics. They talk about it not being economical, but if it was done on a larger scale it would justify the cost."

"Sharing between councils would not only increase the percentage of recycling to a higher level for households and businesses, there would also be more jobs in these areas. If every local council did the same, then it would generate 50,000 more jobs across the county."

Dumped

Rubbish that is not recycled is dumped in landfill sites, except in Ashford, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Swale, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells, where it is taken to the Energy From Waste Plant at Allington. There it is burnt to produce power for the National Grid.

We asked each local authority in the county responsible for kerbside recycling collections to provide details about its services. Most collect a good variety of paper and cardboard waste from householders' doorsteps.

However, Ashford council does not take shredded paper, envelopes with windows and coloured shiny leaflets because they can't be turned into newsprint when they are taken to Aylesford Newsprint, near Maidstone.

Ashford residents also do not get their plastics picked up at the kerbside due to expense, although the council does collect glass.

Several councils provide 'co-mingled' schemes where all recyclables are put in



WORKING TOGETHER: The Green Party is calling for councils to work together to make recycling more economical in an effort to reduce landfill waste

the same bin or bag. Residents do not have to sort their recycling, but critics of the scheme say more energy is used than in pre-sorted schemes because of the machines used to separate the waste.

There are also concerns that paper collected in the same container as plastic bottles and metal cans is contaminated by food and liquid waste – making it unusable for recycling.

A Sevenoaks council spokesman said in some areas participation in the recycling scheme was as high as 93-100 per cent.

"Some 24 tonnes of recycling sacks from the council were recently audited to determine the breakdown of materials in them," he said. "The audit found that less than half of one per cent (0.375 per cent) of the contents were materials that could not be recycled."

Dover council provides a 'sorted' scheme with different boxes for different waste.

A spokesman said: "Collecting paper and cardboard separate from plastics, glass and cans enables the collection of clean paper and cardboard that can be sold easily."

Most of the councils have decided recycling more plastics other than bottles was commercially unviable, and most charge for the collection of garden waste.

Tunbridge Wells council launched a kerbside service to collect plastic bottles on July 3.

A spokeswoman said: "Plastic bottles are a good clean material more readily marketed in the UK for recycling. If we collect mixed plas-

KERBSIDE SCHEMES AROUND KENT

ASHFORD BOROUGH

- Recycles: Telephone directories, newspapers, magazines, glass containers, cans, empty aerosol cans
- Doesn't recycle: Shredded paper, windowed envelopes, junk mail, cardboard, plastics and containers, tin foil, window glass, compostable waste
- Type: Co-mingled (fortnightly)
- Contractor: SITA

CANTERBURY CITY

- Recycles: Paper, packaging boxes, ready meals sleeves, occasion cards, flattened cardboard boxes, plastic bottles, cans, empty aerosols, food tins, foil
- Doesn't recycle: Glass, all other types of plastics, compostable waste
- Type: Co-mingled (fortnightly)
- Contractor: Serco

DARTFORD BOROUGH

- Recycles: Paper, card, cans, plastic bottles, mixed glass (bottles and jars)
- Doesn't recycle: All other types of plastics, compostable waste
- Type: Co-mingled and separate box for glass (fortnightly)
- Contractor: Enterprise MRS Ltd

DOVER DISTRICT

- Recycles: Paper and cardboard, plastic bottles, tin cans, glass bottles and jars, garden waste
- Doesn't recycle: All other types of plastics, food waste
- Type: Sorted (fortnightly)
- Contractor: SITA

GRAVESHAM BOROUGH

- Recycles: Paper, card, cans and plastic bottles

- Doesn't recycle: All other types of plastics, glass, compostable waste
- Type: Co-mingled (weekly)
- Contractor: In-house

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH

- Recycles: Paper, card, tins, cans, plastics (bottles, margarine tubs, yoghurt pots, ice-cream tubs), garden waste
- Doesn't recycle: All other types of plastics, glass, food waste
- Type: Co-mingled and separate bin for garden waste (fortnightly)
- Contractor: SITA

MEDWAY:

- Recycles: Paper, card, glass bottles and jars, carrier bags, metal food/drink cans, envelopes, foil, plastic bottles, empty aerosols
- Doesn't recycle: All other types of plastics, cartons, tetrapacks, polystyrene, compostable waste
- Type: Co-mingled (fortnightly)
- Contractor: Veolia

SEVENOAKS DISTRICT:

- Recycles: Cans, metal jar lids, tins, foil, all aluminium packaging, all paper, all cardboard, all plastic bottles and thin carrier bags. Garden waste and recyclable white goods (fridges etc)
- Doesn't recycle: Other types of plastics, glass, food waste
- Type: Co-mingled (weekly). Garden waste in wheeled bin £41 annually or 12 sacks for £550 (fortnightly). White goods approx £11.50 per appliance
- Contractor: In-house

SHEPWAY DISTRICT:

- Recycles: Paper and card, plastic bottles, glass, tins and cans

- Doesn't recycle: All other types of plastics, compostable waste
- Type: Separated (fortnightly)
- Contractor: Veolia

SWALE BOROUGH:

- Recycles: All paper, all cardboard, plastic bottles, cans, tins, metal jar lids, foil, microwave meal containers, empty aerosols, glass
- Doesn't recycle: All other types of plastics, broken glass, compostable waste
- Type: Co-mingled (fortnightly)
- Contractor: Verdant

THANET DISTRICT:

- Recycles: Green waste, plastic bottles, foil and cans (in some areas), paper and card
- Doesn't recycle: Glass, all other types of plastics, food waste, food and drink cartons
- Type: Co-mingled, separate bin for green waste (fortnightly)
- Contractor: In-house

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH:

- Recycles: Compostable waste, all cardboard, greeting cards (but not with metal, glitter or plastic), all paper, tins, cans, empty aerosol cans, foil
- Doesn't recycle: Any plastics, glass
- Type: Co-mingled, separate green bin for compostable waste (fortnightly)
- Contractor: Veolia

TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH:

- Recycles: Plastic bottles, cans, all paper and card, compostable waste
- Doesn't recycle: All other plastics, tins, glass
- Type: Separated (fortnightly)
- Contractor: Cory Environmental

tics the markets are not so readily available. There are higher sorting and cleansing costs, often resulting in a product for which there are limited markets."

Residents recycled 47 per cent of their waste last year, she said.

In Tonbridge and Malling residents recycled and composted 46 per cent of waste collected.

Nick Chard, KCC's cabinet member for the environment and waste, said: "We have got to look at how we can improve recycling and get really good value for money."

"A lot of saving could be made on the total cost of waste if we were more joined up between districts and county. It is a good service at the moment, but it could be better."

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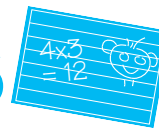
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BY SIMON ROBINSON

RAINHAM School for Girls shows signs of improvement, according to Ofsted inspectors.

The Derwent Way secondary school was rated as level three satisfactory, but notably displayed good capacity to continue to improve.

Ofsted's Joan Greenfield wrote: "The school's overall effectiveness is satisfactory. It is an improving school and several aspects of its work are good."

"Standards are improving and are now closer to the national average than in previous years. The GCSE examination results in 2008 were below average but the school's tracking information shows that students are on course to do better this year, especially for the proportion attaining A* to C grades and when English and mathematics are included."

"The quality of teaching is satisfactory and not quite as strong as the school considers it to be."

"Senior leaders are focusing well on raising standards and improving students' achievement further. Many initiatives are proving to be successful, although they are not always tied closely enough together to ensure maximum impact."

Mrs Greenfield's report lists a number of areas where the school needs to make improvements. Teachers were advised to give students greater challenges to accelerate their progress.

The school also needs to involve students actively in working with others, check their progress systematically in lessons and ensure that marking consistently helps them to improve their work.

It is also essential that the school sharpens its monitoring systems to judge the impact of initiatives more effectively and accurately in order to inform subsequent action.

Headteacher Jacqui Dunn said: "Areas that need attention have already been identified and action plans are under way."

"Our focus now is on ensuring more stu-



MEASURING UP: Ofsted inspectors gave Rainham School for Girls a level three satisfactory rating

dents get higher grades and even better results overall without losing our sense of community and all the opportunities which help our students achieve personal success and fulfilment in life."

Medway Council's children's services boss Les Wicks, said: "This is very clearly a steadily improving school. It already has good areas and a very sound base for adding to its successes."

Medway's director of children and adult services Rose Collinson said: "This is an encouraging report which highlights that Rainham Girls is an improving and inclusive school led by a headteacher

and a team committed to ensuring that 'every young person matters' happens in practice."

"I am pleased to see that the standards within the school are continuing to improve and I have great faith that the headteacher and the staff will continue to secure further improvements."

OFSTED'S VERDICT RAINHAM SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

GOOD:

Personal development and well-being
Curriculum and other activities
Leadership and management

SATISFACTORY:

Overall effectiveness of the school
Effectiveness of the sixth form
Achievements and standards

BREAK TIME

Youngsters urged to become apprentices

TALENTED teenagers looking for work in Medway and Maidstone are being encouraged to apply for a range of apprenticeship positions at MidKent College.

The college, which already trains nearly 300 externally employed workers through its apprenticeship scheme, has now committed to increasing the number of its internal apprenticeship posts to ten before the end of this month.

Lecturer and apprenticeship adviser Al Camacho said: "The key thing to remember is that apprentices are employees."

"They are not students working within the college, but employees studying with us. By doing all we can to support them in becoming the best employees they can possibly be, we will see them grow into mature, confident workers who have a great deal to offer the college and industry as a whole."

Apprenticeships are work-based learning training programmes for 16 to 24-year-olds. Courses are available across a wide



TO THE POINT: Al Camacho shares his thoughts on how best to support college apprentices

range of areas, take around a year to complete and allow candidates to study for an NVQ while working.

The college is looking to take on apprentices in departments including marketing, construction, travel and tourism and IT.

Solid base for improvement



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yourmedwayblogger

Dad of two Gary Wright asks why do so many parents feel they must buy extra tuition for their children?



What tutoring is teaching us about our education system

SO 25 per cent of children in our county are receiving extra tutoring away from their regular school.

Think about that for a minute, one in four kids do not get a proper education under our existing system, or so their parents believe.

A huge number of those children of course will be the poor souls who receive external tutoring just so that they can pass the 11-plus.

Then of course when they get to the grammar school that their parents have chosen many of those tutored kids will spend the next five years struggling to keep up. They'll probably need extra tuition while they're there.

I was actually more disturbed to discover children as young as four were receiving tutoring.

Make no mistake there's something not right with the world of education and I think it's the parents who bear a lot of the blame.

The headmaster of The Skinners School in Tunbridge Wells explained that of the 115 boys he takes in each year, he still carries out another test to find out who 'needs additional support'.

So, in one of the county's top grammar schools – apparently some parents are tutoring smart kids so that they get better results so they can get into a better grammar – admits the boys who arrive may not actually be the cream of the crop.

But I bet the parents are still so proud that their offspring is going to the right school, even though he (or she) is going to spend the next five years struggling and probably hating school for that reason. This is wrong for many reasons.

Firstly, tutored, average student X will have taken a place that could have gone to untutored, gifted pupil Y. That irritates me a lot.

Secondly, tutoring is available to those who have the cash and therefore it does reinforce a have-and-have-not society (though I also accept that many parents make financial sacrifice to pay for the tutor too).

Thirdly, there's the issue of the tutors themselves. Most arrangements are private so it means there is no need for tutors to undergo the normal police checks that teachers must have.

But no one is going to stop external tutoring happening, and here's why:

Teachers might not like the thought that some of their class are receiving outside help, but if it improves the results of 'their' children, they're not going to complain are they?

Our county council will not want to change the tutor system either. If they did, parents might expect standards in the classroom to go up – more one-to-one, that kind of thing – which would mean more money and resources.

So, a council that sometimes struggles to give proper support to dyslexic children (I have personal experience of the difficulty in getting a child statemented), might believe it is better to let an army of tutors, paid for direct by parents, lift the educational standards of a county.

And finally, well meaning but misguided parents will always want to spend money on their children's education. For many it saves them having to spend time reading with their kids.

EDITOR'S NOTE: All blogs are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the acting news editor, **Simon Robinson**, on **01303 817185** or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Medway blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 500 words) and email it to the news editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourmedway.co.uk.

Write to The Editor, Yourmedway, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

* We cannot guarantee all articles will be published and all are at the editor's discretion

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KIKKOMAN

WIN! a Kikkoman salad set worth £65

MOST of us would probably agree that summer eating is all about salads.

There's no doubt that on a warm balmy day a cool bowl of fresh greenery is hard to beat – and coated with a zingy dressing, it's irresistible! A handful of your favourite leaves, fresh herbs and vegetables, tossed together with a richly flavoured dressing made with Kikkoman Naturally Brewed Soy Sauce is a great place to start.

Clever cooks know that Kikkoman's famed soy sauce is the secret ingredient for glorious salad dressings. Free from artificial additives and containing just four ingredients – soybeans, wheat, salt and water – Kikkoman's pure, mel-low flavour will complement other salad dressing flavours perfectly. To create a tangy Lime, Chilli and Soy Dressing, simply crush a clove of garlic into a couple of tablespoons of Kikkoman Soy Sauce, along with the juice of two limes, half a chopped chilli and 200ml olive oil. Shake together and pour over a crisp

green salad. For more tempting recipe ideas log on kikkoman.co.uk.

To get you in the mood for summer eating, Kikkoman is giving away five stylish designer salad sets comprising large bowl, matching servers,

and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone

number to K i k k o m a n Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is July 31, 2009.

Question: How many Designer salad sets have we got to giveaway?

No purchase necessary. For our full Terms and Conditions please visit

www.kentnews.co.uk, or for a posted copy of the T&Cs call 01303 817073.

If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry

Try out this mouth-watering salad recipe from Kikkoman.co.uk:

WARM SOY & CHILLI CHICKEN WITH MANGO AND AVOCADO SALAD

Serves 2

Preparation time 20 minutes

Cooking time 10 minutes

Per serving: 420kcal, 21.7g fat, 4.3g saturated fat

Ingredients:

2 chicken breasts, sliced into 4

2 tbsp Kikkoman Soy Sauce

2 tbsp orange juice

1 green chilli, de-seeded and finely chopped

1 avocado, peeled and cut into chunks

1 red onion, thinly sliced

100g fresh spinach leaves

1 tbsp olive oil

Small handful of torn basil leaves

1 mango, peeled and cut into thin strips

Fresh limes to serve

Method:

1. Pre-heat the grill. Mix the soy sauce, orange juice and chilli in a bowl, toss in the chicken and leave to marinate for 5 minutes.
2. Remove the chicken, reserving the marinade. Cook the chicken under the grill for 8-10 minutes, turning half way through.
3. In a small pan heat the marinade until piping hot and add the oil. Leave to cool slightly.
4. Divide the spinach leaves, avocado, red onion and basil leaves between serving bowls. Top with mango slices and the soy and chilli chicken. Drizzle over the marinade dressing. Serve with limes on the side.



salad spinner, and bottle of Kikkoman Soy Sauce – worth £65!

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EMAIL: Email us your letters to us at yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk

TALK TIME

TIM RICKSON

The Arsenal soccer school office manager talks about Medway's young footballing talent and the joys of the beautiful game



Tell us about yourself

My name is Tim Rickson and I am 27. I'm interested in all sports but my passion is playing and watching football. I hail from south London and am a Millwall fan.

What events do you run in the Medway area?

We have a popular soccer school in Gillingham and Gravesend: at Anchors sports facility every Tuesday from 6pm-7pm, from September 29; and at Gravesend RFC every Thursday from 6pm-7pm, from October 1.

How would you rate the footballers in Medway?

We have seen some very talented players, but I know there are very many that we haven't seen. I would encourage the youth in Medway to join soccer schools and youth teams to enhance their skills. Our Gravesend advanced course discovered some excellent players, but most were fringe players who required further training to progress.

The best and worst things about your job?

Best thing is having a passion for this beautiful game called football. Bonuses are working with Arsenal FC and great FA qualified coaches. But the main thing is to know we are delivering beneficial, rewarding, educational courses. Worst things are not having enough hours in the day; and the arduous, time-consuming background work that goes unnoticed but keeps things running smoothly.

How can readers get involved in soccer school?

Call 01474 874 937 or visit www.playthearsenalway.com. Soccer school costs start from £39.99

YOUR LETTERS



Taxpayers being taken for a ride

Just what is going on with this dictatorial council of ours? It has built a new temporary road in Chatham, costing millions, and no-one wants it or was asked.

It has had the Theatre Royal demolished, at a cost of thousands, and nobody wanted it pulled down.

It is now spending millions knocking down the Sir John Hawkins Way flyover, and nobody wanted it pulled down.

They are going to destroy the Paddock and build a bus depot, which will also cost millions, and nobody wants that either.

When the flyover is down there is going to be a new road built, costing taxpayers millions, and nobody wants it. What I would like to know is, how can the council justify building new roads with taxpayers' money and only private bus companies and taxi firms can use them?

If the motorists who have actually paid for these roads use them, they can be fined. All these millions and I thought there was a credit crunch.

Peter Nassan, Chatham, by letter



COMMENT ONLINE TOO

NOT only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

Beneath most stories on the www.yourmedway.co.uk website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article. To leave your remarks, click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think.

And remember, www.yourmedway.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest news from across Medway as well as our villages.

We will include the best on these pages too - ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience.

In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourmedway before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out. On www.yourmedway.co.uk you can access, for free, the full newspaper in our highly acclaimed e-editions.

The new road signs are being ignored

The council has a temporary road layout in use while the Sir

John Hawkins Way flyover is dismantled.

The plan and the road signs say only buses, taxis and cycles can travel from the lower part of Globe Lane and along Medway Street towards Rochester.

However, since the new layout hundreds of private cars use this route every day, despite the signs.

If the council was to enforce the signs I am sure they would obtain a substantial amount in fines which in theory would offset some of the expense of redeveloping Chatham town centre.

What is the point of putting up signs if a large percentage of drivers ignore them (or possibly fail the eyesight requirements for driving)?

Ian Balderston, by email



Such bitter bigotry belongs in the BNP

Medway blogger last week: I don't believe you. Are you black or are you Indian?

No, I think you're just a small-minded bigot who oozes bitterness. The BNP is just the right party for you.

I recommend you join and become a regular attendee at meetings. You'll find plenty of extremists there who share your views.

You never know, if you scare enough people you might become a councillor.

Oh, sorry, then you'd have to do something for someone else rather than worrying all the time

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about your own petty life. Europe and the rest of the world is out there, by the way. It doesn't bite.
Simon Haydon, comment posted on
www.yourmedway.co.uk

Amazed at reaction to Medway blogger

Since when did councillors have to do something for someone else?

I'm absolutely amazed at Mr Haydon's comments.

I would say they were almost racist and perhaps he, in his "small-minded little world", should get real.

Paul, comment posted on
www.yourmedway.co.uk

Nothing racist about loving your country

Hear, hear! But I think you suspected, and I thought too, that someone would jump and scream racist at you and indeed someone is recommending that you join the BNP for your views.

Unfortunately, racist is the tag given to a lot of people who are just fed up of the one-sidedness of the situation here in the UK.

I applaud your views, and before someone screams racist at me – which they will – just so you know, I share my home with a British-born Pakistani who also agrees with you.

Enya Whittle, comment posted on
www.yourmedway.co.uk



Geoff and Bev are like trusted friends

With regards to Beverley Thompson and Geoff Clark (pictured above) being axed from BBC South East Today, I can't believe it. Why?

They are really good at their job and work so well together. It will be like losing friends.

Janet Ollis, Rochester, by letter

Migrants bring skills the UK sorely lacks

Recent figures suggest racist attacks and abuse in schools in Medway have not been rising as quickly as those in Kent.

This is heartening. It was also very encouraging that Chatham played host to the very successful Love Music, Hate Racism festival in May this year, at which Hazel Dawe, chairwoman of Kent and Medway Green Party, spoke.

But the results of the European

elections, while very good for the Green Party, were in part depressing because of votes given to political parties which are obsessed with cutting or stopping immigration.

Where does opposition to immigration stop short of racism? Does it ever? In fact, all over Europe votes were cast for such parties of the right in alarming numbers. Since 5.5 million UK citizens live abroad, any halt to immigration could easily lead to retaliatory action against them.

Since we are seriously short of many skills in this country, stopping immigration would be damaging to our society and economy.

Whether some people like it or not, being part of the European Union allows us to draw upon people with skills which we simply do not have in this country in sufficient numbers.

Without doctors and nurses from overseas, the NHS would be in a dire condition. We certainly can address the reasons why people want to migrate to the UK.

But one of the main reasons is quite clearly systematic lack of investment in education to address skills shortages.

I am thankful that we have had immigrants to fill the gaps left by successive Governments, and to add to the cultural diversity of the UK.

But I do believe it is the duty of all European governments, including our own, to address their own skills shortages, rather than expecting other countries to provide.

Steve Dawe, Kent Green Party, by email

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Nigel jazzes up Margate

Classical violinist Nigel Kennedy will be paying tribute to legend Miles Davis at the Big Sky Jazz Festival

ONE of Britain's biggest classical stars will be visiting Margate as part of the Big Sky Jazz Festival.

Nigel Kennedy, the best-selling classical violinist of all time, will pay tribute to jazz legend Miles Davis at the Winter Gardens on Friday. It will be one of the highlights of the three-day festival, with exciting events taking place at venues in and around the town.

A leading violin virtuoso, Kennedy has won fans all



Kennedy has won fans all over the world, bringing new audiences to the classical genre with his unique talent and fresh approach to both classical and contemporary music. As a child

Kennedy became the most famous protégé of Yehudi Menuhin, who paid the promising youngster's fees while he studied at the Menuhin School. Kennedy moved on to study under celebrated teacher Dorothy DeLay at the Juilliard School of Music in New York, before exploding on to the music scene in the late 70s.

His impressive debuts include his 1977 performance at London's Royal Festival Hall, the Berlin Philharmonic in 1980 and his New York orchestral debut in 1987. During his long career Kennedy has performed for numerous members of the Royal family and received many accolades, such as Outstanding Contribution to British Music and Male Artist of the Year gongs at the Brit Awards.

From his first award-winning recording in 1985, Kennedy has created an extensive discography. His recording of Vivaldi's Four Seasons entered the Guinness Book of Records as the bestselling classical work of all time, with more than two million copies sold. In 2002 he was appointed artistic director of the Polish Chamber Orchestra, an office once held by his mentor, the late Lord Menuhin.

His passion for jazz is well-known, having produced the album *Blue Note Sessions* which featured a band of jazz giants such as Ron Carter and Jack DeJohnette.

Currently he is working on a new album of original works with his quintet.

The Big Sky Jazz Festival is organised by Margate Town Partnership, with the support of Thanet District Council. It is now in its fifth year and the 2009 event has attracted some of Britain's most exciting jazz talents. Other key concerts in the festival line-up including performances by British jazz guitarist Mark Hewins and his trio, the original District Six South African band, Henry Lowther's Still Waters, Sarah Moule and Simon Wallace, Annie Whitehead's Big Sky Big Band, Lackadaisical Big Band, Christine Tobin Band and John Etheridge.

These great names will be performing live and free on the piazza throughout the weekend.

Tickets for Nigel Kennedy's concert cost £22.50/£11. To book call 01843 292795/296111 or visit www.mar-gatewintergardens.co.uk.

For more information about the festival call 01843 297350 or visit www.visitthetaneet.co.uk.

NIGEL KENNEDY

Friday, July 24 to

Sunday, July 26
Various venues, Margate



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THE BOOTLEG BEATLES

Friday, July 24
Orchard Theatre, Dartford



FOR 30 years The Bootleg Beatles have been paying homage to the worldwide phenomenon that was the Fab Four.

The three founding members met back in 1979, when they were all performing in the West End production, Beatlemania. During the run, they learned the repertoire so well that they decided to continue performing after the show came to an end. Neil Harrison (Bootleg John Lennon), Andre Barreau (Bootleg George) and David Catlin-Birch

(Bootleg Paul) formed The Bootleg Beatles and their live show has evolved over the years to become a spectacular experience.

Three decades ago, the band started out as four musicians wearing black polo neck jumpers and wigs. These days, audiences can look forward to a multi-media stage show featuring a visually stunning video backdrop, which brings together the six phases of the Beatles' rise to fame. An eight-piece orchestra also allows the band to perform later songs that the Beatles never performed live themselves.

The show starts at 8pm and tickets cost £22.50. Book at www.orchardtheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01322 220000.

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

Wednesday, July 22 and Thursday, July 23
Rochester Castle Gardens



ENJOY a credit crunch of Shakespearean proportions when The Merchant of Venice revisits Medway.

The Bard's tale of racism, financial collapse and hidden agendas receives an update in this new production by the Hazlitt Arts Centre and The Changeling theatre company.

Set in a City not unlike our own, the play highlights Shakespeare's talent for capturing age-old problems by giving his story a modern twist.

Former Hollyoaks actor



Oliver Farnworth stars as Lorenzo, who loves the daughter of Jewish money-lender, Shylock. While one character accepts a loan from Shylock at a high risk, another tries to win the hand of an heiress by taking part in a game that draws comparisons with game show Deal or No Deal.

Farnworth has previously starred as Lysander in the

popular British Shakespeare Company's production of A Midsummer Night's Dream and appeared in ITV's The Royal. Tickets are priced from just £10, so this is recession-beating entertainment in a great outdoor setting.

The performance starts at 7.30pm. To book tickets call 01622 758611 or visit www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk.



RIVER FESTIVAL

Friday, July 24 and Saturday, July 25
Maidstone, Riverside



ONE of Maidstone's biggest events celebrates its 30th anniversary this year with a packed programme of entertainment.

Thousands of people are expected to flock to the county town this week for the annual River Festival. As the free event marks three decades of fun, festival-goers can expect an even better extravaganza than ever. Organisers hope to make a big splash on the River Medway with a packed line-up of family entertainment on both days.

One of the highlights of the festival will be the spectacular raft race which starts at 2.30pm on Saturday. Entry forms can be downloaded online at www.maidstoneriverfestival.com.

Two live music stages and two dance stages will provide a wealth of entertainment, along with the street entertainers and the Amphitheatre stage. Roll up to enjoy all the fun of the Forrest Family Funfair, bag a tasty bargain at the French market and witness the illuminated boat parade.

The festival will go out with a bang as the spectacular fireworks finale to marks its 30th birthday in style. More details can be found at www.maidstoneriverfestival.com.

MEDWAY LEISURE

Get wet and wild when you go ditch-dipping

FIND out what lurks beneath the surface of ponds by taking part in a ditch-dipping session at RSPB Northward Hill. The event runs from 10am to 1pm and all equipment will be provided.

The event costs £4 for non-members and £2 for members and children. To book or find out more call 01634 222480 or visit www.rspb.org.uk/northward-hillevents.

Families should race to Buckmore Park circuit

GET on track for an exhilarating day out as Buckmore Park kart circuit hosts a DJMotorsport Family Fun Race on Sunday.

Teams of two are invited to take part and drivers will use the 70mph RX7 Pro spec karts. Entry costs £103 per kart. To book call 0845 603 7964. For more information about Buckmore Park at Chatham visit www.buckmore.co.uk.

Swing along to theatre and help our heroes

HELP raise money for our military heroes while enjoying a great night out at the Brook Theatre in Chatham.

Rising swing star Shane Hampshire and a line-up of comedians will be performing in aid of Help for Heroes. The concert starts at 7.30pm on Friday and tickets cost £12/£10.

To book call 01634 338338 or visit www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebooking.

Choo know where to go for great live music

FOR an evening of live funk, soul, blues and jazz music, head to the Lower Bell in Aylesford this weekend.

The pub will be hosting a gig by The Choos. Find out more about the band online at <http://thechoos.co.uk>.

They will be appearing at the pub in Chatham Road at 8.30pm on Saturday. For more information call 01634 861127 or visit www.lowerbell.com.

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There is live music on a Thursday night and a quiz on a Sunday evening.

Small or large groups are all catered for and the pub is particularly popular with hikers who enjoy the excellent landscape.

They regularly book tables for up to 20 and 30 walkers.

The See Ho has been an institution in the Medway area for many years and is open from 11 am until 3pm and 6pm until 11pm each day.

Current top sellers on the menu are a home made rabbit pie, rib eye steak, homemade steak in ale pie, fillet steak and lamb shank.

A £3 lunch special is also available and all the dishes are homemade. On the menu is meatloaf mash with fresh vegetables, fishcakes, chips and peas and various pasties with chips and peas or beans.

All of the dishes are complemented by excellent beers and wines which the knowledgeable staff ensure are kept perfectly.

Music from bands and singers will take place on July 23, 24 and 30th

Fresh food at very reasonable prices is the key to the success of the venue which attracts custom from far and wide because of its excellent reputation and fine location.

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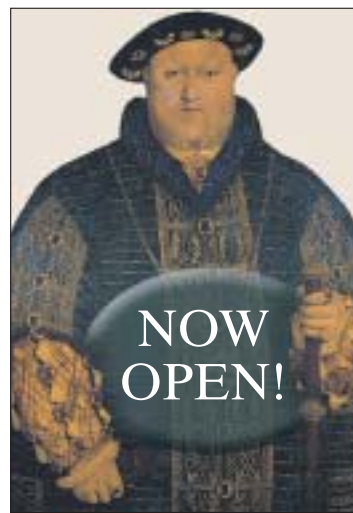
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out guide



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Taste of Italy in countryside

La Zagarella

THE Harrow and La Zagarella is a friendly hotel bar and restaurant and is well regarded for its excellent Italian and Sicilian style food.

Sincere hospitality in the traditional warm Mediterranean style is offered to all visitors whether they are locals or have travelled many miles to taste the excellent food and drink on offer and sample the ambience.

A genuine find for lovers of quality cuisine the restaurant is situated in one of the most attractive parts of the Garden of England – bringing the tastes and atmosphere of southern Europe to the heart of our countryside.

The business has been running for one year and in that time has built up a large and ever growing number of loyal regular customers while others who discover the place as a one-off know they have uncovered a rare treat.

The eatery offers real Italian stone-baked pizza either to eat in or take away.

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The best Italian food in the area gives a true taste and feel of a more refined way of life. Lunch is on offer from 12-3pm and evening meals are catered for from 7-10.30pm.

The Harrow and La Zagarella Restaurant, Hubbards Hill, Warren Street, near Lenham, ME17 2ED.
Telephone: 01622 859846, www.harrowhillhotel.com.

Thailand on your doorstep

Rakang Thai Restaurant

THE Rakang is a traditional Thai restaurant with decor that is designed to make customers feel as though you have stepped straight into Thailand.

Owner Narong Pilong has worked in Thai restaurants for over 10 years in Surrey and Bath, and when the opportunity arose to own his own restaurant he jumped at the chance.

"I love this location," he said. "Now we have a very successful Thai restaurant which gives people the chance to experience the authentic flavours of one of the world's great cuisines."

The most selected dishes on their menu include: **Starter:** mixed chicken satay, spring rolls, Thai spare ribs, prawn toast £10.95.

Main: weeping tiger (sizzling) prime of sirloin steak grilled and served with special hot and sour sauce £9.95.

Main: Pla Pao which is a whole seabass marinated in aromatic Thai herbs grilled and served with two styles of seafood dressings £13.95.

Desserts: Dragon Ball is a very popular dish, vanilla ice cream deep fried £4.75.



The restaurant opened its doors in September last year and since then has established itself in the Medway Towns and beyond as a place where quality food can be obtained at very reasonable prices.

Rakang Thai Restaurant, 129 Watling Street, Gillingham ME7 2YY. Telephone: 01634 850077.

CHEF RECOMMENDS

Bloomers

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Drinks: Chilled Lanson Champagne

Telephone Number: 01474 322131

Website: www.overcliffehotel.co.uk

Spice Court

Starter: Capsi kebab, grilled whole green pepper filled with lamb

Main Course: Marisa chicken or lamb, in a medium sauce fairly hot with a flash of chilli and chef's special herbs

Dessert: Royal pot toffee flavoured ice cream with toffee pieces all displayed in an attractive pot

Telephone Number: 01634 850150

Ace of Spice

Starter: King prawn butterfly coated in a mildly spiced batter and deep fried.

Main Course: Chicken Dhansak – meat or prawns combined with a lentil dahl.

Dessert: Flute hazen: ice cream with coconut and hazelnut

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Starter: Farmhouse pate and toast

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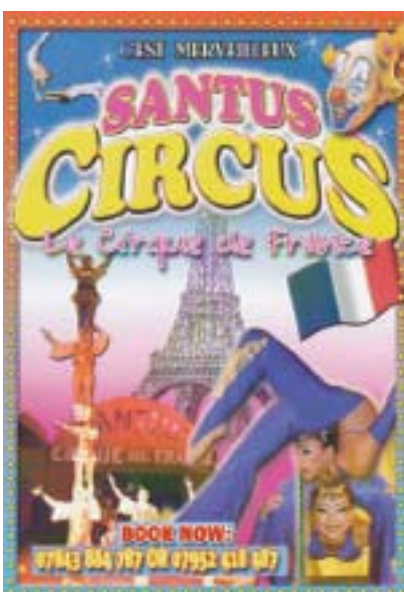


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Beth Frost on 01634 831531 or
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For information, visit the showroom at Tunbridge Wells Trade Park, call 01892 517385 or go online at www.granite-transformations.co.uk/tunwells.

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Pets at Home is urging people to think carefully when travelling with animals.

Their top tips include providing fresh water; restraining dogs with a harness or barrier; carrying animals in a wire-mesh box rather than a cardboard one and never leaving pets alone in a car.

The store's range of travel products includes Serene-UM car sickness tablets (£6.06 for 30) for dogs and cats. Visit your local store or go online at www.petsathome.com for details.

Jeanette tells a case full of stories for kids

CHILDREN'S author Jeannette Towey will be talking about her work at Waterstone's in Tunbridge Wells this weekend.

She will be chatting to customers about her story, which appears in the anthology *A Suitcase Full of Stories*, and signing copies upstairs in the children's section from 11am on Saturday.

For more information, call 01892 535446. Find out more about all Waterstone's events online at www.waterstones.com.

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YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY TOM BETTS

AIRLINE
ITV1, 8pm, Friday
TORCHWOOD: CHILDREN OF EARTH BBC One

I HATE flying, but I love Airline, the fly-on-the-wall show which follows the turbulent work lives of those who earn a living serving easyJet.

"It's not easy being green" sang Kermit the Frog many moons ago, but these workers could easily change that to it's not easy being (decked in orange) as the staff of the budget airline endure the vociferous bile that is usually reserved for paedophiles and killers.

There's a lot of shouting in this show – and I do mean a lot.

Much of the action centres around the check-in desk as people turn up late, without passports or often drunk as skunks and then expect to be let onto their flight regardless.

Airline is back for a 20-week run on ITV1 which means they'll be a lot of stamping of feet and rows in broken English.

Brilliant!

Arguments may be horrible things to be involved in first-hand, but they make cracking television.

There are lots of less interesting bits about the day-to-day operations, but really this is all about those "Get me on that plane, you mug" moments, and god bless it for that.

You have to hand it to the staff, many of them seem to have developed skin thicker than the Hoover Dam and rarely bat an eyelid when someone is up in their face hurling a stream of abuse their way.

I doubt many of us would be able to operate under such stress.

I've panned Torchwood in the past – and with good reason.

More often than not it's been awful



ALIEN INTERVENTION: Torchwood's recent storyline has proved the show is getting better

nonsense that seems to exist only as the reinvention of Doctor Who which has been such a huge success.

However, I must admit that five-parter Children of Earth was actually rather good and had me hooked.

The acting was nothing to get too excited about, but the storyline, about a brutal alien race demanding ten per cent of the planet's kids to use as some kind of recreational drug, was a good and original idea which worked rather well.

Stretching it out to every weekday night may have been pushing it a bit far, especially at a whole hour per episode, but credit where it's due.

It bodes well for the next series, if they decide to make one.

If they don't, then it would be a shame finishing just as the light at the end of the tunnel had finally loomed into view.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

THERE'S never been a better time to start getting in shape. If you've had difficulty staying on track before, that won't happen now. It will be much easier to lose weight, tone up and not put it all back on. Financial difficulties could put a damper on your love life.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

YOUR ideas will be a real hit today. It's possible you will be offered a job that involves teaching or writing. This position will put you in contact with some interesting people. Normally, you prefer sticking with your own kind. This time around, though, you'll enjoy mixing.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

TRUSTING your instincts will help you bond with someone special. The two of you have a powerful chemistry between you. If you're single, you could meet someone special at a place of worship or a hospital. This encounter will make you believe in love at first sight.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

A CHANCE to travel abroad, widen your knowledge base or get published could arrive quite suddenly. Follow it up and life will never be the same afterwards. A close relationship could be showing signs of strain. Your friends may not approve of a new partner.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

A ROMANCE, project, or family decision could turn your life around. It's time to make room for joy and that might mean cutting back, even at the risk of losing money. You don't need to be wealthy to have fun. A friend may try to fill your head with fears regarding career prospects.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531753



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

A JOB opportunity helps you on the road to fame and fortune. It's great to get paid for something you love to do. Opportunities related to entertainment, charity, and health care are all options. However, a dour relative may have a dim view of your career choice.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

PITCHING in with a team effort gives you a new lease on life. Generally, you like being of service to others, but working with your peers will give you a greater sense of confidence. An authority figure could be giving you mixed signals, which makes your job much harder.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

THINGS are looking good right now thanks to a romantic or business partner. Now you have more money, you can afford a down payment on a house. Resist the urge to spend it on meaningless luxuries. Struggles in your career are a result of poor communication skills.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

IT'S a good time for buying or selling property. This will happen quite suddenly and the result will be great. You may want to move to a private spot. Although you're very social, you need a secluded area to recharge your batteries. Work can be something of a challenge now.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

YOU could discover some hidden talents this week. Finding surprising ways to apply your expertise gives you a new level of confidence. Don't be surprised if you're asked to teach, write or lecture. People look to you as an authority, even if you don't have formal training.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

PUBLIC recognition is coming your way, so get ready for the spotlight to be trained on you. It's great to know people enjoy your creative vision. If you've ever wanted a career in fashion, film, or television take the plunge now. Offer to work for free, if you have to.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

OLD relationships evolve into newer, stronger friendships. Someone could get engaged or married quite suddenly. It's even possible you'll form a business partnership. No matter what the nature of this bond, it will have some unusual aspects. You could be complete opposites.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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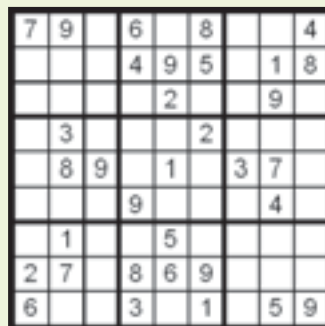
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EASY



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HARD



CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Notes by river perhaps the movement of money (4,4)
6 Illusion of silver in swamp (6)
9 Attack name included for pancake (6)
10 Number on phone about Greek general (8)
11 Direct speech? (8,4)
13 By which chauvinist might express annoyance (5)
14 Throw bullet from catapult (9)
17 Removed fault fast as it is windy (9)
19 Inexperienced environmentalist (5)
21 Rail-car? (7,5)

- 24 Woman who flirts on river in Northumberland, say (8)
25 Natural rind be removed (6)
26 Reach former nurse (6)
27 Saying vegetable in outer covering is good initially (8)

DOWN

- 2 With skill profitably somewhat (4)
3 Were eyes in the back of the head used with this? (9)
4 Reptile found in sitting-room? (6)
5 Bird to grow beak! (7)
6 I leave German city with gin-sling chewing (8)
7 Drunkard came up to pocket billiard ball again (5)
8 Pretty girl perhaps is well-behaved observer (4-6)
12 Letter from William exchanging tuxedo (6-4)
15 Beast had three months with book, nothing less (9)
16 Distributed, dealt lot out (8)
18 Novelty of unworn cape (7)
20 I get in fancy light (6)
22 Note police going inside during suspension of hostilities (5)
23 Some who move inside have distinctive manner (4)

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QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Control column (8)
6 Assent (6)
9 Secluded footway (6)
10 Large horned bird (5-3)
11 Vulnerability (12)
13 Pool (5)
14 Flu (9)
17 Misleading (9)
19 Pong (5)
21 Stallholder (6,6)
24 Disunion (8)
25 Carole (anag.) (6)
26 Chinese fruit (6)
27 Rebel (8)

DOWN

- 2 African antelope (4)
3 Pasta (9)
4 Breathe in (6)
5 Moscow citadel (7)
6 In an imposing way (8)
7 Remove dirt (5)
8 Reducing workforce (10)
12 Render unfit (10)
15 Amuse (9)
16 Terrapin (8)
18 Word from initials (7)
20 Skilful (6)
22 Town NW of Aberdeen (5)
23 Hint (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No96

EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



CRYPTIC SOLUTION No96

ACROSS: 1 By the by 5 Ghosted 9 OMOV
10 Bumfreezer 12 Jurassic 13 Creepy 14
Action replay 17 Quelque chose 21 Pampas
23 Pick-me-up 24 Historical 25 Tidy 26
Unknown 27 Cricket. DOWN: 2 Yum-yum
3 Have a ball 4 Baby-sit 6 Hire car 7 Siege
8 Exemplar 11 Microscopic 15 Pneumatic
16 Duration 18 Unscrew 19 Oscular 20
Dundee 22 Paten.

QUICK SOLUTION No97

ACROSS: 1 Joystick 6 Accede 9 By path
10 Eagle-owl 11 Helplessness 13 Kitty 14
Influenza 17 Equivocal 19 Shirk 22 Market
Trader 24 Division 25 Oracle 26 Lycree
27 Multitiner. DOWN: 2 Oxyx 3 Spaghetti
4 Inhabit 5 Krenin 6 August 7 Clean 8
Downsizing 12 Disqualify 15 Entertain 16
Torloise 18 Acronym 20 Adroit 22 Keith

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ON GENERAL RELEASE

MOON (15)



David Bowie's son Duncan Jones makes an auspicious directorial debut. Actor Sam Rockwell is the man stationed on the moon who falls ill, meets his clone and finds himself trapped by a computer

BRUNO (18)



Sacha Baron Cohen adopts the role of gay, crass, insolent fashionista Bruno from Austria, who tours the US looking to set up unsuspecting locals with his outrageous brand of 'interviewing'.

THE PRIVATE LIVES OF PIPPA LEE (15)



Robin Wright Penn stars as Pippa Lee, a woman heading for a mental breakdown after moving to a retirement village with her older husband, who has an affair with her friend's son.

Magical superstar – or just a normal teenager?

■ BY KATE WHITING

AN EARNEST young actor bursts into the room, grabs my hand in a shake and says: "Hi, I'm Daniel".

But he doesn't need to make an introduction. Daniel Radcliffe has one of the most recognised faces in the world thanks to a certain boy wizard named Harry Potter.

In fact, after seven years playing JK Rowling's creation there can't be many places where the 19-year-old isn't known.

Dressed simply in a red shirt and jeans, Daniel scans the hotel suite in London with curiosity. But once he starts talking about something, the words just flow in a torrent of excitement.

Harry Potter And The Half-Blood Prince, the sixth film in the highly successful franchise, once again pits Harry and his faithful side-kicks Ron Weasley (Rupert Grint) and Hermione Granger (Emma Watson) against dark forces.

With the evil Voldemort on the rise, the students at Hogwarts have to be ever more vigilant about who is among them.

Returning teacher Professor Horace Slughorn (Jim Broadbent) provides Harry with valuable knowledge about his former pupil Tom Riddle, a boy who would grow up to become a threat to the wizarding world.

There's also romance in the air, as Ron gets a new girlfriend, making Hermione jealous, and Harry kisses Ron's sister Ginny (Bonnie Wright) for the first time.

"It was weird, because I've known Bonnie since she was nine. When Katie Leung was brought in to play Cho (Harry's first love), we all knew she was going to be the love interest, but with Bonnie as Ginny, she was just



LOVE INTEREST: Harry Potter actor Daniel Radcliffe

brought in to play Ron's little sister, so it was kind of odd kissing her."

That said, Daniel claims he wasn't nervous about the scene. Partly because he had just been performing in a West End and Broadway production of Seventies play Equus, which involved getting his clothes off every night.

For all the fame and money – he reportedly signed a contract worth more than £25m for the final Harry Potter films – Daniel's

VIEW THIS PREVIEW

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a normal, if fairly intellectual, teenager.

During breaks from filming, he and Rupert play table tennis, or watch daytime TV and old war movies. He writes poetry in his spare time and stays in touch via letters.

Daniel and his co-stars are a few months into a 19-month shoot for the seventh and eighth films. The final book, Harry Potter And The Deathly Hallows, has been split into two.

In his first post-Potter role, he's set to play photographer Dan Eldon, who was killed in Somalia, aged 22, in The Journey Is The Destination – funding permitting.

"It is a long way off at the moment, but it's potentially a very exciting thing for me."

HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE

Certificate 12A



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Adam Hills & Brendon Burns
Edinburgh Warm Ups

Thursday 30 July 7:45pm



University of Kent
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Adam Hills

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yourmedwaymusic

Festival is Hevy-ing with great alternative bands



MAKING MUSIC: Electro-pop star Gary Newman, top, and Hundred Reasons will be at the Hevy Music Festival

MUSIC often mirrors life, in as much that bad things in the industry also come in threes; Atomic Kitten, 911 and Cleopatra being three examples of terrible trios.

As always, however, there is an equal yin to the yang. For us Kentish folk we have summer music festivals.

Having already enjoyed the Hop Farm and Lounge on the Farm weekenders, next up we have the Hevy one-dayer, completing the trio of good events.

Take that Atomic Kitten.

The Folkestone beach event – taking place on Saturday, August 1 – features 25 bands and singers across three outdoor stages.

Among the biggest draws are British rockers Feeder, Ash and Hundred Reasons and 80s superstar Gary Numan.

The majority of the bill is dedicated to lesser-known, more obscure bands.

A Hevy Music Festival spokesman claimed this was their intention, saying: "There are

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

many fantastic new festivals being developed in Kent this year.

"Having grown up in Canterbury, it's great to see so much live music being offered in this corner of the UK. To try to create something a bit different, and cater for a market that we felt could do with some attention, we're developing this as an alternative music festival.

"For our first year we're keeping things simple, with a one-day event featuring a diverse line-up of huge bands from the world of alternative music.

"We're hoping to develop the event next year, with more bands on more stages, possibly over a number of days."

Tickets to the festival cost £48 and are available from www.hevy.co.uk or Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, the Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury, and the Winter Gardens, Margate.

Gates open at 1pm. For more information, visit www.hevy.co.uk.

MAIN STAGE: Feeder, Ash, Gary Numan, The Blackout, Hundred Reasons, Attack! Attack!, Sonic Boom Six, In Case Of Fire

SECOND STAGE: Cancer Bats, We Are The Ocean, The Ghost Of A Thousand, The Xcerts, Heartbreak, Sharks, Farewell City, Mexico Fallz, After The Ordeal

THIRD STAGE: LightsGoBlue, More Than Normal, Amber Room, One Day Elliott, Elephants, The Startover, Kingskin, Eleven Eleven

UPLOAD YOUR MUSIC VIDEOS TO BROADCAST ON OUR WEBSITE @ yourkenttv.co.uk



SHOCKING: Electro-synth stars Golden Silvers at Lounge on the Farm



LOUNGING AROUND: Los Salvadores perform at the same event



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- 2 Neonhalo - 20/8 The Beacon Court Gillingham
- 3 Shadow Aspect - 29/8 Westcoast bar Margate
- 4 The Suspects - 4/9 The Hare & Hounds Maidstone
- 5 Backburner - 19/9 The Clarence Hotel Hastings



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ABTA Y0291



History rises from desert sands

BY EMILY BEAUMENT

THERE'S more to Egypt than the Pyramids of Giza and a trip deep into the western desert reveals one of its less well-known treasures.

A three-hour drive south from the coastal town of Marsa Matruh, and 350 miles south-west of bustling Cairo, Siwa Oasis is a dust-coloured settlement that has changed little in centuries.

But the 'oasis of a million palm trees' is more than a patch of green in an expanse of sandy desert. It boasts several ancient ruins, including the Temple of the Oracle linked to Alexander the Great and its own 'mountain of the dead' containing ancient tombs.

The palm trees which give the city its name and are so important to the area that they cannot be chopped down.

As a result, our hotel had several trees protruding through the dining room and up into the terrace where they cast a welcome shadow from the sun.

Unlike the Western bustle of Cairo, Siwa is a traditional place – the women are totally covered in public and there isn't a drop of alcohol to buy. However, they don't mind if you bring your own.

We headed out of town to see some of the places originally settled by the Bedouin before they moved into Siwa, as well as the salt lakes and springs which rise like mirages out of the desert.

One of the highlights of the trip was the desert safari, where we stopped at an oasis lake for a swim, before heading to a part of the desert littered with the fossils of seashells dating back millions of years to when the Sahara was at the bottom of the sea.

We also went to Giza, where the crowds of tourists, the camel-ride salesmen and the



ANCIENT RELIC: The Temple of the Oracle can be dated back to Alexander the Great and its 'mountain of the dead'

security searches are as much a part of the experience as the Pyramids themselves.

Our Egyptologist guide dismissed a number of the theories about the Pyramids – including the belief they were built by slaves – but told us their dimensions were perfect for withstanding earthquakes.

We got a chance to see belly dancing and whirling dervishes on a Nile cruise, which fabulously showed off the capital city by night.

It was a world away from the donkey carts and sunsets over the desert of Siwa, and hard to believe the two places were part of the same country – and the one trip.

FACT FILE: EGYPT

Time difference	+Three hours (GMT)
Capital	Cairo
Language	Arabic
Population	76 million
Currency	Egyptian pound
Religion	Muslim
Climate	Arid

Travel details

Emily Beaumont was a guest of On the Go Tours, which offers the seven-day Siwa to Alexandria group tour from £549 (land-only), monthly through 2009. Package includes B&B accommodation, two lunches, two dinners, guide, all transfers.

Return flights into Cairo are arranged by On the Go from regional departure points. Reservations: 020 7371 1113 and www.onthegotours.com.



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WOMEN seeking men

MATCH OF THE DAY!

Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5'2", a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494 **1**

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Hi I'm Katie, caring, fun-loving, 5'11, slim single mum of 2. Enjoy clubbing out and cosy nights in with genuine man. Box 879522 **1**

IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU BABY

Caring and honest lady, 25, blue eyes, blonde hair, looking for a sweet, caring and respectful non-smoking man, 25-35, for love, friendship and LTR. Box 879522 **1**

NOT YOUR BROWN-EYED GIRL, BUT...

Blue-eyed brunette, 27, 5'11, loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, me time! Looking for honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105 **1**

YOURS AND YOURS ONLY

Attractive, down-to-earth British-Indian single mum, 29, WLTW white British male, 29-34, no lies, for long-term relationship. Box 883431 **1**

GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE

Loving loyal female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, 6ft+, no baggage, in the Maidstone area. Box 448471 **1**

SEEKING MR DARCY

Warm, kind and sincere woman, 31, lots of love and loyalty for the right person, seeking an honest genuine man with a good heart. Box 451004 **1**

HORSES FOR COURSE...

Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 **1**

HAPPY DAYS!

Attractive, fun-loving female, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTW intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734 **1**

IN THE COUNTRY

Are you the one? I'm 33, single, 5'10, pure country lass from farming background, seeking my lovely country man to make me forever happy. Box 892265 **1**

GOOD LUCK CHARM

Sporty female, 34, 5'12, likes the gym, beach walks, Tennis and cycling, WLTW similar male in his 30s for friendship in Eastbourne. Box 453712 **1**

A FAIRYTALE ENDING!

Princess Fiona, 34, looking to meet her Shrek. 5'10, short brown/blonde hair, blue eyes, large build, seeks romantic caring guy for friendship, maybe more! Box 877957 **1**

FEAST YOUR EYES ON ME...

Hello I'm Andrea, 35, petite 5'8, shoulder length curly hair. I enjoy eating out, cinema and I'm looking for friendship and possible long term relationship. Box 453039 **1**

SOUND GOOD?

Hello I'm 35, kind, caring and non-smoking, enjoy cooking, cinema, music, dining in and out, looking for that special someone to enjoy a relationship with. Box 447595 **1**

SEALED WITH A KISS

Petite lady, 36, long hair, blue eyes, single mum, enjoys holidays, wine and dining, laughing, seeks loyal, loving man for friendship and more. Box 453079 **1**

STARRY NIGHTS

Hello I'm Sarah, single mum from Kent, brown hair enjoy swimming nights in/out looking for a caring man to share the best thing in life. Box 878378 **1**

GALLOP AHEAD!

Maidstone-based woman, 36, 5'10, slim, blue eyes. I'm caring, honest and have 4 children. I enjoy driving, horse riding and WLTW honest, reliable man. Box 451311 **1**

HISTORIC MEETING?

Mum of three, 36, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 440693 **1**

LOVE TO LOVE YOU

Lovely female, 36, 5'14, medium/large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102 **1**

CALL ME

Happy but shy girl of 37, loves all the normal things in life, seeks a mature guy, hoping for something lasting and meaningful. Bexhill-on-Sea. Box 452424 **1**

MEND A BROKEN HEART

Single mum, 37, fun-loving, been hurt in past, looking for nice, genuine guy for hopeful happiness - no time wasters! Box 908053 **1**

THE WIT TO WOO!

Kent female, 40, 5'7", dark eyes, GSOH, no lies, likes cosy nights in, socialising, country pubs, cinema, seeks loyal, caring male, for friendship & more. Box 152862 **1**

LIFE IS GIVING

LOVE A GUARANTEE

Down-to-earth lady, 42, sincere, honest and reliable, looking for a male for friendship first, going out, enjoying evenings and perhaps something more later on. Box 449712 **1**

BELLA ISABEL

Lovely, fun and caring brunette, 42, recently divorced, intelligent, hard working, fun-loving, WLTW a gent to socialise with. Box 878250 **1**

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL

Good-looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5'10, likes bowling, eating in/out etc. Looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with GSOH for friendship/relationship. Box 450349 **1**

IS THIS YOUR?

43yr old woman, divorced, single mum, a Christian, genuine and honest, local. Looking for a similar male, a non-smoker, a professional, Kent area. Box 453580 **1**

YOU NEVER KNOW

Kind, loving and caring mum, 43, 5'10, round but cuddly! Just looking for someone to share my life with...how about you? St Leonards-on-Sea. Box 446457 **1**

TLC ON OFFER FOR THE RIGHT PERSON!

Blonde, blue eyed woman, 44, fun-loving, looking for Mr Right. I love going out, nights in, movies, walking, local guys. WLTW the right man for TLC. Box 880280 **1**

THIS STATE OF INDIFFERENCE

Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156 **1**

LOVE TO MEET YOU

Kind woman, 42, outgoing, happy-go-lucky, sometimes shy. I like gardening, socialising, travel, walks. Looking for happy, fun fella. Aylesford. Box 428464 **1**

A SOUL MATE

Black Christian girl, 39, likes country music, loving, considerate, kind and caring, looking for a like-minded man, 32-50, with a pretty inside. Box 453066 **1**

ENTHUSIASM ENCOURAGED!

Lovely pretty big-busted lady, 39, medium build, 5'10, lots of energy! Likes the gym, reading, new experiences! seeking a nice man for potential exciting relationship! Box 446724 **1**

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE

Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, WLTW a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551 **1**

PERFECT MATCH

Hi I'm Nikki, 5'17, brown hair, green eyes, enjoys animals especially my pets. Looking for a tall man who has a personality compatible with mine. Box 453374 **1**

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YOUNG AT-HEART

Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893 **1**

JOINED AT THE HIP

Sociable petite girl with great SOH, 40, blonde, sociable, love football! Looking for fun guy with great SOH for inseparable partnership. Box 880434 **1**

TO THE STARS

Woman with a great sense of humour, I'm 40 and I like going out, astrology, writing and socialising. How about you? Kent area. Box 453877 **1**

BETWEEN US

Asian lady, 41, single, no ties, out going, fun loving, professional, looking for a white male, genuine, professional and solvent. Box 451900 **1**

FOR A RELATIONSHIP?

Shy but confident-once-known female, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walks, swimming; seeks gent with similar interests to find hopeful love with. Box 452106 **1**

THE WIT TO WOO!

Kent female, 40, 5'7", dark eyes, GSOH, no lies, likes cosy nights in, socialising, country pubs, cinema, seeks loyal, caring male, for friendship & more. Box 152862 **1**

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PERFECT MATCH

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MISS THIS MISS OUT

Radiant, warm, witty, intelligent, attractive lady, 44, 5'6", love music, travel, restaurants, the arts, theatre, WLTW like-minded gent, 38-50 who's fun, cultured, solvent and kind. Box 430403 **1**

STARTING OVER

Divorced 45yr old cuddly woman, brown eyes/hair, likes swimming, animals, cinema, soaps, the beach. WLTW a honest, non-smoking man for friendship, maybe more. Ashford. Box 878141 **1**

COME ON DOWN!

Honest, bubbly female 45, long hair, slim, enjoys walking, cinema, socialising, seeks honest, friendly chap for friendship leading to more. Box 882693 **1**

YOUNG AT HEART

Young 46, fun-loving but also mature, serious female, looking for someone fit, handsome, intelligent and full of fun. Box 884113 **1**

FRIENDSHIP FIRST

Understanding, caring female, 45, 5'14, medium build, brown hair, likes cinema, animals, music, romantic pubs, seeking male for cuddles, hugs and more. Box 444873 **1**

MAID MARIAN!

Hi, I'm Marian, petite, blonde, green eyes, 46, looking for my Mr Right, to have fun with and enjoy lasting relationship with. Box 447986 **1**

FANCY A FILM?

Hi, I'm Pam, 47, 5'11, brown hair, hazel eyes, slimish, divorced, looking for a LTR with a nice and genuine man. No time-wasters please! Heathfield. Box 448626 **1**

SOUND GOOD?

Hi I'm Lynne 46, 5'14, dark hair/eyes, love reading/writing, going out, astrology, cars; seeking honest, caring, out-going guy to enjoy music, fun, friendship and more. Box 449186 **1**

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?

Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366 **1**

2'S COMPANY

Seeking gent, 48-50ish. I'm a divorced woman, in Rye, 47, work in nursing and WLTW someone loving and faithful. I like meals out, theatre, arts, walks. Box 452503 **1**

LOOK THIS WAY!

Slim single mum, 46, 5'10, light brown hair, works full time, friendly and easy-going, WLTW lots of new friends, hopefully someone special. Box 878456 **1**

BE MY FRIEND AND LOVER

Bubbly, caring lady, 47, divorced with 2 teenagers, dark hair, medium build, into cooking, driving, love to talk, laugh and have fun, seeking a normal guy. Box 425952 **1**

ALL THAT I NEED

Young-looking, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving, outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out, staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50. Aylesford. Box 428833 **1**

SHARE A BOTTLE

This is Diane, I'm 51, 5'17, quite curvy, very social, honest and friendly. I work full-time and want to spend time with a nice man. Box 453370 **1**

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CARING & PROFESSIONAL

Female 49, 5'14, long hair, slim, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings. Box 417100 **1**

JUST IMAGINE

Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTW genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562 **1**

HIT THE JACKPOT

Good-looking female, 50, looking for a kind, reliable and honest man, must be a moderate drinker, for companionship and romance. Box 878216 **1**

BRING ME TO LIFE

Lighthearted female, 42, 5'12, medium build, loves walking, socialising, swimming, holidays, looking for friendship maybe more. Box 453832 **1**

YOU DON'T KNOW UNTIL YOU CALL...

Young-looking, hard-working 53yr old living in East Sussex. I am a happy, caring person with a good sense of humour. Non-smoker. Heathfield. Box 883410 **1**

REAL THING

Tactile female, 54, 5'13, medium build, likes walking, animals, countryside, places of interest, looking for an adventurous, Irish fellow to accompany me. Box 453859 **1**

DO YOU HAVE THE BRAINS & THE LOOKS?

Professional, attractive female, 54, enjoys the countryside, gardening, keeping fit, reading and live music, looking to meet an attractive and intelligent man for a relationship. Box 448863 **1**

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS!

Smart petite lady, 56, 5'14, tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad; seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448795 **1**

DREAMS OF YOU

Genuine, caring lady, late 50s, slim & young looking, looking for a loyal, considerate, N/S male for long term relationship. Box 448566 **1**

DIVORCED

Loving, kind, honest female, 58, 5'10, interests include the countryside, old pubs, music, reading and baking. Looking for that special someone to enjoy life with. Box 878455 **1**

BEING WITH YOU

Hi I'm Jenny, 61yr old widow, enjoys pub meals, countryside, the beach, cinema, seeks loving male for friendship and more. Box 453104 **1**

WINE AND DINE

62yr old bubbly, petite, fit lady, like walking, picnics, the beach, cosy nights, seeking a honest male to share the finer things in life with. Box 453724 **1**

LOTS OF TLC TO GIVE

Happy-go-lucky lady, 63, 5'13, medium build, brown hair/eyes, likes dancing, walking, holidays abroad, looking for a like-minded male for friendship, maybe a LTR. Box 452897 **1**

SOMEBODY TO LAUGH WITH...

Loving lady looking for companionship, 63, 5'13, medium build, brown hair/eyes, loves dancing, walks and animals, seeks similar male with great SOH for lasting happiness. Box 446382 **1**

PUT SPARK INTO LIFE

Caring slim female, 64, 5'12, like meals out, cinema, walks, gardening and golf, looking for a kind and loving companion, 60-68. Box 450581 **1**

Women seeking women

IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS

I'm a 26yr old female, looking for new friends and maybe that special girl, let's have a meal and a drink and see what happens! Box 448722 **1**

ANY OFFERS?

Curvy female, 28, 5'10, blue eyes, likes reading, painting, walks and nights in/out, WLTW an honest, sincere and feminine female for a possible relationship. Box 452108 **1**

JUST A GIRL

Bubbly, feminine, attractive lady seeking the same! I'm slim, athletic, blonde, blue eyes. I'm 28 and WLTW similar female. Box 878387 **1</**



PROPERTY NEWS

Lender offers 125% to tackle negative equity

THE Nationwide Building Society is offering a 125 per cent mortgage, but it is only available to existing customers in negative equity who want to move house.

The UK's largest building society said it was a "niche offer" and not everyone in negative equity will be eligible.

These types of loans have been criticised in the past, and since the credit crunch have been withdrawn from the market altogether.

They were available at the height of the property boom and borrowers were immediately placed in negative equity once house prices began their descent.

The Financial Services Authority is considering restricting mortgage loans to 100 per cent of a property's value.

Meanwhile, under the Nationwide's new offer, borrowers would take out a loan for 95 per cent of the value of their new property at a fixed rate of 6.73 per cent for three years or 7.48 per cent for five years.

The interest rates for the additional borrowing, up to another 30 per cent, rise to 7.23 per cent and 7.98 per cent respectively.

First-time buyers get cash help from parents

CASH gifts and loans from parents and other family members are boosting the housing market for young first-time buyers.

Data from the Council of Mortgage Lenders says 80 per cent of first-time buyers under the age of 30 are likely to have received help from parents to make the 25 per cent downpayment now required by the majority of lenders, the council says.

In 2006, this figure was about 40 per cent.

However, figures are still down on similar statistics for 12 months ago, despite the rally.

Some 14,000 loans to buy homes were made to first-time buyers in May, up 2 per cent from April but still almost 30 per cent down on May 2008.

However, the data also suggests that lenders are no longer tightening their criteria when it comes to putting out money, a trend which has been evident since late last year.

Average loans to first-time buyers were almost three times income in May, the same as April, according to the findings.



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Recovery hindered by under-valuations

■ BY NICK AMES



OBSTACLE: Lenders' surveyors have been accused of under-valuing property to restrict lending

PEOPLE looking to buy a new home are being thwarted by banks offering mortgages below the builder's asking price, two of the country's largest homebuilders claim.

Barratt Developments and Redrow have accused banks of stalling the housing market's recovery by downgrading their valuations on new properties in a bid to restrict lending.

The activity means that househunters have to come up with more cash than they would normally need to complete purchases.

Redrow said the "widespread practice of downvaluation by surveyors representing mortgage lenders" posed a "major obstacle to the recovery of the housing market".

Having agreed a price with the prospective buyer, Redrow said deals were then being undermined when surveyors valued the homes at less than the asking price.

This meant that potential buyers could only get a mortgage for the valuation price, leaving them to either come up with a larger deposit or pull out of the sale.

Redrow, which saw completed sales slide 46 per cent to 2,113 in the 12 months to the end of June, blamed the gap in valuation for about two-thirds of its cancellation rate of 20 per cent as potential buyers were forced to give up on buying the property.

Steve Morgan, company chairman, said: "It's not happening all the time, but there are too many incidents of it. We're seeing a tremendous discrepancy over valuation."

Newly-built houses can be more expensive compared with older houses, but a Redrow spokesman said there were cost savings associated with newer homes, such

as included energy efficiency. The concern was echoed by Mark Clare, chief executive of Barratt Developments, who said the policy was creating a "two-scheme mortgage sector".

"Someone who has equity or savings might be able to manage, but a first-time buyer might be left in a situation where they can't proceed," he said.

He added that one of the key problems was surveyors comparing a new-build to an older house.

"We're not asking for new-builds to be valued at a premium, but for them to be valued appropriately," said Mr Clare. "If we can't get the right price, we will remarket the property."

Mr Clare added that the current situation was more buoyant and "dramatically different" to the autumn, when the company was trying to reduce stock and had to take what was being offered.

"We're now building to order," he said.

Barry Hall, of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, said the initial builder's price was not necessarily a market valuation.

"If a surveyor values the house at less than the asking price, that's presented as a down-valuing, but that's a myth," he said.

He added that there was "nothing wrong" with lenders asking surveyors asked to value a house as second-hand rather than new, but added he was "not convinced" that the lender always made this clear to the buyer.

Mr Hall said there had been problems in the past with housebuilders adding incentives to the cost of a new house such as fitted carpets or a year's free groceries, masking the real price.

A spokesman for the Home Builders Federation said: "There is an issue with valuations and it's a concern to the industry."

"We are trying to work with the lenders, their representatives and the Government to find ways to improve the situation."

Signs of growing confidence

OPTIMISM in the housing market is rising in the South East as potential buyers continue to show interest, according to the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors.

A survey for June found that confidence is returning, thanks to a rise in price expectations, supported by low levels of stocks on surveyors' books and increasing buyer enquiries.

Evidence that activity in the housing market is picking up, albeit from very low levels, has increased surveyor optimism.

The net balance of surveyors in the region

expecting price increases rose, with 29 per cent expecting house prices to rise, compared with a negative reading of five per cent in May.

The rise in optimism has been driven by the continuing upturn in buyer enquiries and falling levels of fresh supply.

The survey also contains more definitive signs that the rebound in enquiries is now feeding thorough into increased transactions.

Sales rose again, with the average numbers of properties sold over the past three months rising to 12.7, up from 11.7 in May.

Jeremy Leaf, RICS South East spokesman, said: "Although the market is showing signs of improvement, it is unlikely that there will be a sustained recovery while mortgage lenders remain risk-averse."

"A lack of supply on the market is providing a platform for modest price increases."

"While supply remains tight, the market is likely to show tentative signs of progress, but instructions are starting to increase and will dampen any serious improvement while economic conditions remain uncertain."

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Two bedroom 'Dutch Barn' style house, conservatory, chain free.

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Gillingham OIEO £155,000

Three bedrooms with en-suite to master, two receptions, sun room and cellar.

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Chatham £149,950

Three bedroom town house, driveway, cloakroom, en-suite to master.

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Rochester OIEO £140,000

Three bedroom Victorian house, lounge/dining room, bathroom.

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Gillingham OIEO £135,000

2 bedroom semi detached, kitchen, garden, block paved driveway.

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Gillingham OIEO £135,000

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Two bedroom semi-detached home. Features include double glazing, fitted kitchen/diner, bathroom.

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Two bedroom bungalow. double-glazing, central heating, upstairs master with en-suite. Private garden.

Rochester



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Cliffe Woods



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Talk to the agent getting results

Green shoots of recovery appear in the market

Thinking of selling? Don't delay - the market is coming back to life. In February, new buyer registrations rose by 17 percent and agreed sales by 36 percent*. And, importantly, first time buyers returned with a vengeance with more than double** looking to buy in the first two weeks of January. It's good news for the market and great news if you are thinking of selling. **Act now.**

*Source: "Hometrack Mar 09. **National Association of Estate Agents Mar 09.



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• Retirement Development • Two Bedroom
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- garage, desired location

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Rainham | Price Range £320,000 - £360,000

- 4 Bed Detached Bungalow, 3 Reception Rooms,
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- Bathroom, Well Established Rear Garden, Parking

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Cuxton | Price Range: £240,000 - £275,000

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* Source: 113 offices across the southeast, comparing total applicants to available housing stocks in May 2009



Gillingham Price Range £189,000 - £220,000

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- Off Road Parking for Two Cars.

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- Downstairs WC, Garage to Rear

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Gillingham: Price Range: £135,000 - £155,000

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- Bathroom, Extended L-Shaped Kitchen,
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Chatham Price Range £130,000 - £150,000

- One Bedroom Bungalow, Fitted
- Kitchen, Conservatory, Central
- Heating, Double Glazing, No Chain

CHATHAM OFFICE | 01634 841243



Lordswood Price Range: £85,000 - £100,000

- One bedroom ground floor maisonette,
- courtyard garden and communal garden,
- allocated parking and no forward chain

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Chatham: 01634 841243

Upper Gillingham: 01634 281155

Lower Gillingham: 01634 851191

Rainham: 01634 373531

Rochester: 01634 830925

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MOTORS NEWS



Dealers offer an early sighting of Skoda Yeti

SKODA adds the completely new Yeti two and all-wheel-drive range to its line-up in September, but certain Kent dealers are offering sneak previews by using early production left-hand drive cars.

Sherlodge Garage of Gillingham plans a Yeti open day on July 30, while Adamsons of Deal is offering demonstration drives two days earlier on July 28.

The chunky looks are not just for show either; 4x4 Yetis have an off-road button to adjust the chassis and driving aids to boost grip and traction in tricky conditions.



Banger deal is worth £4,000 off new Leon

SEAT dealers have unveiled a stunning scrappage package worth as much as £4,000 off the stylish VW Golf-based Leon family hatchback.

Dover dealer, Hollis Motors confirmed a price of under £10,000 for the 1.6 S Emotion special edition this week, for anyone part exchanging a car at least 10 years old that they are willing to send for scrap.

The deal comprises a £2,000 discount under the Government-sponsored scheme plus a further £2,000 donated by the VW-owned Spanish marque.



Mini celebrate its big Five-Oh down at Bewl

BEWL Water, near Tunbridge Wells, aims to be a Mini mecca from July 31 to August 2 when the Southern Mini Owners' Club stages 'Golden Mini Days' – a celebration of 50 years of the motoring icon.

Attractions at the reservoir at Lamberhurst will include car displays, Minis on sale, workshop demos, races and wacky events such as 'Loudest Exhaust', trade stalls, music and lots of fun. Free camping is included in the admission. Go to www.southernmini-days.co.uk or www.bewl.co.uk.



SMALL BUT PERFECTLY FORMED: Kia's Soul is an urban crossover which can be customised and personalised to suit the buyer, an option which rivals that of the Mini and Fiat 500

Kia's Soul wows drivers on more than just price

PRICE usually dominates any discussion about Kias.

Yet how much? was not the first thing I was asked when driving the Korean marque's new Soul.

It helped that I was driving the eye-catching £14,995 top of the range Soul Burner 'Original' though, with its 'Quartz Black' paint complemented by roof rails, rear spoiler, red grille and door mirrors plus 18-inch black and chrome alloys. Oh, and there are dragon decals crawling across the car.

There's no respite inside: red highlights and dragon motif mats assault the eye while a 'soulful' sound system comes with 315-watt output, dash-top boombox and front door speakers that can light up or throb red to the beat.

All proof that Kia has found itself at last – the brand's name actually means 'to come out' in Korean – with this 'urban crossover' available with customisation and personalisation options to rival the Mini and Fiat 500 cult stars.

Brick-like styling is largely influenced by the SUV (sports utility vehicle) vogue of recent years, without the sheer bulk and waste of

ROAD TEST KIA SOUL

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

extra motive power to the rear end.

A high lift tailgate accesses a huge boot with deep underfloor storage; fold the rear seats and you can cram the car to its high roofline – Kia claims it will take two mountain bikes.

The Soul is a deceptively tidy drive too with good levels of grip and a sporty nature yet decent ride, all helped by a wide track and long wheelbase.

You get the 4x4 high driving position and image without the heaviness and wallowing on the corners.

Engine choice is a 1.6-litre petrol or diesel with 124 and 126bhp respectively. The latter is smoother with more low-down punch and should average at least 10mpg more than its petrol sister. The nose feels weightier and better planted when pressing on too.

However, the diesel option adds a grand to the price of whichever model you choose.

On the other hand, there is no need to be miserly with prices from £10,495 plus a five-year unlimited mileage warranty and generous standard kit. For that you get a capacious and funky family motor at a supermini price – though don't expect supermini economy with such pugnaucious styling.



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Official Government Test Environmental Data - Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Corsa SXi 1.3CDTi (75PS): urban 49.6 (5.7), extra-urban 74.3 (3.8) combined 62.8 (4.5). CO₂ Emissions 119g/km.

Model shown has optional metallic paint available at extra cost. 3 Years 0% Finance available with 20% minimum deposit. Finance by GMAC UK plc, applicants must be aged 18 or over. Finance offer available at participating retailers. UK supplied vehicles only. Guarantee/indemnity may be required. To be eligible for the Corsa Free Insurance offer Corsa SXi drivers must be aged between 19-80 and will need to have held a full UK/EU driving licence for at least 2 years. A compulsory excess of £250 will apply. Please note that additional excesses do apply in respect of young drivers and modifications. Vauxhall Motor Insurance is underwritten by Provident Insurance plc, authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. Free insurance in Northern Ireland is underwritten by AXA Insurance Limited, regulated by the Financial Regulator and obliged to comply with the ICOB rules issued by the Financial Services Authority. The free involuntary redundancy cover is optional and is offered to customers who take out a finance agreement with GMAC from a participating FSA authorised retailer. The cover, which is subject to eligibility, is for the first 24 months of the finance agreement (excluding the first 90 days, and is up to a maximum of 12 monthly payments). Terms and conditions apply (see Retailer for further details of cover). The insurance is provided by Finance Insurance Company Limited. Other providers of redundancy cover are available, for more information see www.moneymadeclear.fsa.gov.uk. £2000 Government Scrappage Allowance is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government Scrappage incentive criteria. The Government Scrappage payment applies to vehicles registered on or before 31.08.99 when traded in against a new car subject to conditions. All offers available to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. Offers apply to selected new vehicles ordered or registered between 03.07.09 and 01.10.09, and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. (Vaux75614)



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CORSA								OTHER MAKES							
06	06	Corsa Sxi Plus	1.2	3	Silver lightening	30,725	5,695	06	06	Zafira Club Auto	2.2	5	Star silver	37,280	7,495
07	07	New Corsa Sxi	1.4	3	Flame red	30,750	7,995	08	58	Zafira Breeze CDTi Plus	1.9D	5	Metro blue	12,600	13,995
08	08	New Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	5,770	8,895	DUE SOON							
08	58	New Corsa Sxi CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	4,200	9,995	03	53	Rover 25 Auto	1.6	5	Blue	51,350	3,495
08	58	New Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Silver lightening	3,675	9,295	04	04	Ford Focus	1.6	5	Blue	44,250	4,650
08	58	New Corsa Club CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	3,325	9,995	01	51	Corsa Comfort A/c	1.2	5	Red	29,000	2,995
08	58	New Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	4,380	9,995	07	57	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Air blue	24,000	8,395
08	08	Corsa Design	1.4	3	Star silver	4,350	8,995	07	57	Astra Elite Auto	1.8	5	Star silver	16,000	9,250
08	58	New Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	3	Metro blue	6,100	9,995	08	57	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Black sapphire	8,000	9,995
08	58	Corsa Club Auto	1.4	5	Ultra blue	9,495	9,995	08	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Ultra blue	9,000	10,995
08	58	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	5	Silver lightening	7,750	9,695	08	58	Astra Breeze Plus	1.7D	5	Silver lightening	4,000	10,495
ASTRA								05	05	Zafira Breeze	1.6	5	Black sapphire	52,950	5,495
06	06	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Rubens red	22,021	8,195	09	09	Zafira Sri XP CDTi	1.9D	5	Star silver	TBA	18,995
06	06	Astra Design Estate	1.6	5	Pannacotta	34,950	7,195	09	09	Insignia Elite CDTi Auto	1.9D	4	Black sapphire	TBA	22,995
06	06	Astra Club	1.4	5	Silver lightening	37,500	6,995	09	09	Insignia Sports Tourer	1.9D	5	Panacotta	TBA	17,995
06	56	Astra Elite CDTi	1.9	5	Ultra blue	37,950	8,995	09	09	Insignia Sports Tourer	1.9D	5	Silver lightening	TBA	17,995
06	56	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Star silver	39,340	7,495	09	09	Insignia SR Nav (i60)	1.9D	5	Technical grey	TBA	21,995
07	06	Astra Club	1.4	5	Silver lightening	37,180	6,995	09	09	Tigra Exclusive	1.4	2	Antigua	TBA	12,995
07	07	Astra Design Sports hatch	1.6	3	Power red	26,340	8,995	06	56	Meriva Life A/c CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	26,000	7,995
07	57	Astra Club CDTi Est	1.3D	5	Panacotta	8,275	8,995	COMPANY OWNED VEHICLES - CARS							
08	08	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	15,890	9,995	08	58	Agila Design	1.2	5	Steel silver	TBA	8,995
08	08	Astra Breeze Sports hatch	1.4	3	Star silver	2,110	9,495	08	58	Agila Club A/c CDTi	1.3D	5	Steel silver	TBA	9,995
08	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Green spirit	3,725	11,495	08	58	Agila Club	1.2	3	Moroccan blue	4,850	8,595
08	58	Astra Club CDTi Estate	1.7D	5	Technical grey	14,450	10,995	08	58	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Black sapphire	TBA	9,245
08	58	Astra Sri Sports hatch	1.6	3	Silver lightening	6,650	10,995	09	09	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	TBA	10,995
08	58	Astra Exclusiv T/T	1.8	2	Panacotta	12,690	14,995	09	09	Corsa Sxi CDTi A/C	1.3	3	Black sapphire	TBA	10,495
08	58	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	4,650	10,495	09	09	Corsa Sxi CDTi A/c	1.3	3	Flame red	TBA	10,495
08	58	Astra Breeze Sports hatch	1.4	3	Black sapphire	3,100	10,795	09	09	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	3	Black sapphire	TBA	10,495
INSIGNIA								09	09	Corsa Active	1.2	3	Star silver	TBA	8,995
09	58	Insignia Elite Auto Nav	2.0	5	Star silver	4,060	20,995	09	09	Corsa Active	1.2	5	Metro blue	TBA	9,495
AGILA								09	09	Corsa Active	1.2	5	Silver lightening	TBA	9,495
08	58	Agila Club Auto	1.2	5	Moroccan blue	2,800	8,995	09	09	Corsa Sxi In Touch	1.2	5	Star silver	TBA	9,995
08	58	Agila Club A/c	1.2	5	Steel Silver	TBA	8,795	09	09	Corsa Design In Touch	1.2	3	Black sapphire	TBA	9,995
08	58	Agila Design	1.2	5	Moroccan blue	TBA	8,995	09	09	Corsa Sxi In touch	1.2	3	Black sapphire	TBA	9,695
MERIVA								09	09	Corsa Sxi In touch	1.2	5	Star silver	TBA	9,995
08	58	Meriva CDTi Breeze Plus	1.3	5	Black sapphire	10,930	11,495	09	09	Corsa Sxi In touch	1.2	3	Flame red	TBA	9,495
08	58	Meriva Life	1.4	5	Air blue	3,720	8,995	08	58	Astra Sri X Pack	1.8	3	Black sapphire	TBA	13,495
VECTRA								09	09	Astra Breeze Plus CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	TBA	11,995
02	52*	Vectra Sxi	1.8	5	Star silver	66,000	2,995	09	09	Astra Design Auto	1.8	5	Metro blue	TBA	12,995
06	06	Vectra Design Est	1.8	5	Star silver	38,000	7,495	09	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Ultra blue	TBA	10,995
ZAFIRA								09	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Metro blue	TBA	10,995
04	04	Zafira Design DTi	2.0D	5	Black sapphire	56,350	5,495	09	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Silver lightening	TBA	10,995

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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

FAMILY CARS

THIS sector used to dominate the UK car market, but sales have been eroded by new categories such as the 4x4 sports utility vehicle and MPV and encroachment by upmarket compact executive models like the BMW 3-Series, which outsells Ford's former UK market leader, the Mondeo, in some months. Nevertheless, many second-hand car buyers still like the idea of a spacious, comfortable and more conventional family runabout and prices can be very affordable, so here are three popular and contrasting sellers based on ability and value.

FORD MONDEO



ONCE the UK's favourite car, its fall from favour reflects changing tastes rather than the Mondeo's ability. The car's greatest weakness has been the bonnet badge – something the current generation car tries to overcome with Germanic quality and detail. Nevertheless, the previous car was well-built, superb to drive and incredibly spacious. Apart from the best-selling hatchback there is a saloon and one of the roomiest and best-looking estates in the sector.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

CITROEN C5



CITROEN'S latest C5 is a stunner inside and out and lives up to ads suggesting that 'the Germans' may be worried. The old car was less of a threat, but never mind the looks – look at the prices. The original C5 has actually proved to be a reliable and great value used buy, with a pliant ride and loads of space; the estate is enormous for anyone needing to cart lots of stuff and diesels are the star buy.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

VW PASSAT



VW'S previous Passat set a higher benchmark for quality and the new version raised the bar again. The German giant knows the best way to counter upmarket rivals, including sister marque Audi, was by upping the standard of the overall package, so the new Passat is more spacious, drives better than previous models and looks good. Factor in some of the best engines, petrol or diesel, choice of saloon or capacious estate, plus modest used prices and it looks irresistible.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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	ROBINS & DAY	NATIONWIDE AUTOCENTRES	KWIKFIT
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INTERIM SERVICE	£89.99	£110	£79
MAJOR SERVICE	£169.99	£230	£139
FRONT BRAKE PADS	£59.99	£80.38	£68.99
FRONT BRAKES & DISCS	£139.99	£195.05	£178.99
CLUTCHES	£329.99	£466.74	N/A

Price comparisons based on a 2004 Peugeot 206 1.4 petrol model, competitors prices taken from their web sites, comparison prices correct on 08/05/09, prices do not take into account any local special offers.

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08 58 MERCEDES A150 AVANTGARDE AUTO PAS LOADED 1000 MILES.....£14995
08 58 MEGANE 1-6 EXPRESSION ESTATE AUTO PAS BLACK 600 MILES.....£9995
08 58 CHEVROLET LACETTI EST 1-8 SX SW AUTO PAS 5 DR BLACK 4000M.....£7495
08 58 FORD FUSION 1-6 ZETEC PLUS BLUE METALLIC 2000 MILES.....£10495
08 58 FOCUS 1-6 TITANIUM AUTO PAS 5 DR ALLOYS AIR /CON 658 MILES.....£13995
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08 58 ASTRA 1-8 SRI SPORT COUPE AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 1600 MILES.....£12995
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08 58 NEW CORSA 1-2 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR ICE BLUE 4000 MILES.....£8995
08 58 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DOOR BLACK 4000 MILES.....£8995
08 58 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE SILVER 7000 MILES.....£8995
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08 58 TOYOTA YARIS TR AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR GREY 2000 MILES.....£10495
08 58 TOYOTA YARIS T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR BLUE 6000 MILES.....£9995
08 58 FOCUS 1-6 TITANIUM AUTO PAS 5 DR ESTATE SILVER 4000 MILES.....£12995
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08 58 PEUGEOT 207 SPORT CC 1-6 AUTO ALL BLACK LEATHER 2000 MILES.....£15995
08 58 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC ACENTA AUTO PAS LATTE 4000 MILES.....£11995
08 08 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLACK 12000 MILES.....£12995
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06 06 FUSION 14 CLIMATE AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5 DR AMETHYST 15000 MILES.....£6995
06 06 FIESTA STYLE 1-6 CLIMATE AUTO PASAIR/C BLUE ONLY 50 MILES.....£7995

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07 57 FOCUS 16 ZETEC 3DR AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS SEA GREY 13000 MILES.....£8995
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06 58 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA ESTATE CAR AUTO PAS STRATOS SILVER 23000 MILES.....£8995
06 58 FORD FOCUS GHIA AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C TANGO RED 9000 MILES.....£7995
06 58 FORD FOCUS GHIA AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C SEA GREY 13000 MILES.....£7995
06 58 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PASAIR OCEAN BLUE 8000 MILES.....£7995
06 58 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C STEEL GREY 12000 MILES.....£7995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS TONIC BLUE 2000 MILES.....£7995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR PANTHER BLACK 11000 MILES.....£6995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS TONIC BLUE 21000 MILES.....£6995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS TONIC BLACK 18000 MILES.....£6995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS SILVER 21000 MILES.....£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS SILVER18000 MLS.....£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS TONIC1000 MLS.....£7495
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07 56 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 9000 MILES.....£7995
07 56 CORSA 1-2 LIFE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 5000 MILES.....£7995
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 23000 MILES.....£5995
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08 08 KIA RIO 1-4 ICE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 4000 MILES.....£7495
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08 58 SKODA ROOMSTER 2 AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 6000 MILES.....£9995
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07 07 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SILVER GREY 7000 MILES.....£9495
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06 06 SUZUKI IGNIS 1-5 GL 5 DR AUTO PAS MET BLUE 17000 MILES.....£5995
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07 57 HONDA CIVIC 1-4 SE AUTO PAS AIR/C CHAMPAGNE 7000 MILES.....£10995
07 07 HONDA JAZZ 1-4 SE AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 1000 MILES.....£9995
06 56 HONDA CRV SE SPORT 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 17000 MILES.....£12995
06 06 HONDA CRV EXEC 5DR AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR SILVER 17000 MILES.....£12995
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07 57 NISSAN MICRA 1-4 SPIRITA AUTO PAS RED MET JUST 1000 MILES.....£7495
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 SE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 22000 MILES.....£6495
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-4 SVE 3 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C RED 13000 MILES.....£6495
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06 06 C180 COMPRESSOR CLASSIC AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 28000 MILES.....£12995
02 02 A140 CLASSIC SE AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 26000 MILES.....£4995
00 Y C240 ELEGANCE AUTO PAS SILVER AIR LEATHER ALLOYS 70000M.....£7995

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08 08 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ESTATE STAR SILVER 8000 MILES.....£9995
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08 57 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR ULTRA BLUE 4000 MILES.....£7995
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08 57 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR SILVER 6000 MILES.....£7995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 CLUB AUTO PAS ESTATE PANNACOTTA 11000 MILES.....£7995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ESTATE METRO BLUE 2000 MILES.....£8995
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07 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C STAR SILVER 17000 MILES.....£6495
06 56 ASTRA 18 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR PANNACOTTA 17000 MILES.....£6995
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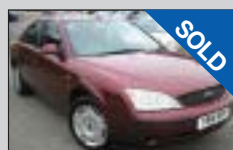
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- PR, MEDIA, JOURNALISM
- PUBLIC SECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES
- RETAIL, WHOLESALE, SALES
- SCIENTIFIC AND PHARMACEUTICAL, RESEARCH
- TRANSPORT, LOGISTICS, AVIATION

Senior & General Appointments 45-48

KOS Media is a highly successful newspaper publisher within Kent, that has received many awards from the newspaper industry.

We now have vacancies in our Production Department for experienced

Mac Operators (Weekends)

We are looking for experienced, confident and self-motivated team players, preferably with newspaper experience, who are seeking to further their career within the industry. The individual must have relevant Mac experience, including knowledge of Quark, Photoshop and Illustrator.

The position involves creating visuals for customers, ad setting, including property and motors, creating classified sections and make-up of pages to be sent to our printers.

The candidate should be able to work under pressure, meet strict deadlines and be eager to work within a team environment to ensure the smooth operation of our fast-paced production department.

Hours will be Friday to Monday.

Previous applicants need not apply.

To apply, send a CV and covering letter to:



KOS
media

Award winning publications
www.kentnews.co.uk

Personnel
KOS Media
Apple Barn
Hythe Road, Smeeth
Kent TN25 6SR

or email: personnel@kosmedia.co.uk

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Adastra is an Advanced Computer Software Plc group company.

Adastra Software Ltd is seeking a number of highly motivated individuals with excellent technical, communication and customer service skills to join our busy and vibrant teams - Consultancy Services and Service Desk. The successful candidates will be enthusiastic, with the aspiration and ability to expand and apply their existing skills in step with Adastra, an innovative market leader in healthcare IT.

Application Consultant (Ashford, Kent – Working Nationwide)

Delivering training and application consultancy for our market leading product range to our nationwide customers, the successful candidate will have experience of a customer focused environment and excel working in a team based role. You should be able to demonstrate experience in all or some of the following areas;

- Delivering end-user training in 1:1 or small classroom environments
- An understanding of relational databases and ability to write SQL queries
- An understanding of Microsoft Reporting Services would also be an advantage

For those candidates that can evidence the right aptitude but do not yet have all the necessary levels of experience, in-house training will be provided.

The role requires extensive travel throughout the UK and Eire, therefore candidates must hold a full UK driving licence.

Salary: An attractive salary package is on offer, including a company car or car allowance
Other Benefits: 5% pension contribution and 25 days annual leave

Service Desk Technician (Ashford, Kent)

The successful candidate will ideally have experience in supporting Microsoft client-server networks, Citrix and Microsoft SQL. Customer service experience is a must for this primarily telephone and remote support based role. For those candidates that demonstrate the right aptitude but do not yet have the necessary levels of experience, in-house training in all the Adastra supported products and platforms will be provided.

The Adastra Service Desk provides 24/7/365 healthcare IT support for our customer base and as such you will join our "on call" rota after an initial period of approximately 3 months. This will include working some evenings, weekends and overnight. A generous on call premium is allocated for the weekend and overnight shifts as well as time off in lieu.

Salary: An attractive salary package is on offer
Other Benefits: 5% pension contribution and 25 days annual leave

For either role, please send your CV including covering letter to our HR department at the address on the left or by e-mail to: recruitment@adastra.com

Closing Date: Friday 24th July 2009



MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

ICT Technical I.L.T Support Engineer

Ref: P0653

Salary: £18,433 - £23,640 per annum

We are looking to recruit an organized and hard working individual to provide technical support to our ICT department. The successful candidate will have proven knowledge within this field and have an understanding of a learning environment. The ability to work with a range of software packages including PHP, HTML +CSS and Photoshop is essential.

Closing date: Friday 24 July 2009

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer



SCREEN SOUTH BUSINESS & OPERATIONS MANAGER

£25 - £27k depending on experience
Full-time, Folkestone

We seek someone with great financial and business acumen who knows numbers and understands people to give our CEO the operational support to ensure Screen South continues to deliver the value for money and joined up thinking that makes it possible to support film and media throughout the South East.

You will need significant experience in budget, office & people management, and of monitoring/reporting procedures, with a hands-on and flexible approach to working within a small but very busy team.

We are also seeking a **RECEPTION & ADMIN ASSISTANT**
c. £12k, full-time, Folkestone

Full details of both positions and application process at: www.screensouth.org

For an informal conversation please contact our retained consultant at Year One Consulting on 01303 256 240.

Closing date: 12noon Friday 31st July 2009
Business & Operations Manager interviews: Thursday 6th August 2009
We welcome applicants from all sectors of the community.

SCREEN
SOUTH

Forward Care (Residential) Ltd



Providing Residential Care for Adults
with Learning Disabilities



Male Support Workers required

To provide personal care for men with learning disabilities and challenging behaviours for our home in Sittingbourne. Will need to have NVQ Level 2/3 with 6 months experience working with ALD. Clean current driving license required.

Interested candidates should apply in writing enclosing a recent C.V. to
Christine Morgan/Administrative Manager

Forward Care (Residential) Ltd, 15 Keycol Hill, Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8LZ
Previous applicants need not apply. This post is exempt from the Sex Discrimination Act Section 7 (c and f)

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PART-TIME DISPENSER WITH RECEPTIONIST SKILLS REQUIRED

GP Dispensing Practice 20 hours per week Mon-Fri,
NVQ level 2 qualification in dispensing essential, but
may consider a person requiring a qualification
update in dispensing. Must be able to work without
supervision and have own transport.

Must be willing to cover holidays and sickness.

Closing date: 24 July 2009

Contact: Mrs Julie Allen – Julie.allen@nhs.net

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www.arriba-classleaders.co.uk

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This role will involve working with a heat press.

1-2 days a week- there may be an opportunity for more hours.

£7 per hour based in Rochester.

For more information please send your CV to
fiona@xstreamgroup.co.uk

BE A 'PROPERTY PROFESSIONAL'

Regardless of the recession, a new European Directive now legally requires an estimated 2.5 million homes and commercial properties being rented, sold or built to have an Energy Assessment this year alone. And more 'green environmental' laws are coming!

For example next year nearly every commercial property with air-conditioning must have an Assessment before the January 2011 deadline. Applicants are therefore required to train now as multi-skilled 'Property Professionals' to carry out commercial and air-conditioning Energy Assessments and many other roles such as Flood and Fire Risk Assessments, Energy Audits, Insulation Surveys, Property Valuations, Home Condition Reports, Public Buildings Assessments etc.

No previous experience is necessary, training to join this new growth industry can usually be taken around current job at our nationwide training centres approved by the government-appointed Awarding Body for the Built Environment and is subsidised. On qualifying start your own energy business, work for other Assessment Providers or be available for potential full or part-time work through our Energy Assessor Panel with earnings of £50 to £1,200 per Assessment.

Ring today for an interview and find out more about a career opportunity in this fast-expanding, new 'green' industry.

020 8335 1700

PROPERTY
PROFESSIONALS



ref: HK0280

Career Opportunities

Canterbury College is an equal opportunities employer

Canterbury
College

Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M Campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

Coordinator Theatre Production Arts across Levels 1,2 and 3 courses in Dance and Dramatic Arts

09/35

18.5 hours per week, salary starting at £27,209 pro rata per annum.

Lecturer Physics

09/45

37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum.

Lecturer Health & Social Care

07/81

18.5 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum.

Lecturer Play Work/Early years

09/41

18.5 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum. One year fixed term post.

Temporary Lecturer Animal Care and Veterinary Nursing

08/42

37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum. Fixed term post to cover maternity leave not to exceed one year.

Lecturer Animal Care and Land Based

01/144

18.5 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum.

Lecturer Key Skills

07/30

37 or 2 x 18.5 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum (pro rata for part time posts).

Lecturer Electrical Installation

09/26

37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum.

Supply Lecturers Higher Education Graphic Design to teach HND and BA (Hons) Graphic Design and Advertising

S/HE/GD

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum.

You will have a minimum of a good first degree in a relevant area of design and demonstrate a willingness to contribute to the development of the HE graphic design programmes. Specialist knowledge of typography, editorial design, branding and/or interactive design are essential. You should be able to offer ongoing support to guidance with project work and degree level student dissertations.

International Manager

08/111

37 hours per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum.

College Receptionist

R1

22.25 hours per week, salary starting at £15,085 pro rata per annum.

Night Cleaners

09/22

5 posts, 20 hours each per week, salary £6.42 per hour. Temporary posts to cover maternity leave not to exceed 12 months.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 03 August 2009 at 12 noon

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

Staff benefits include:

- Pension & Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall & Gym
- Proximity to main bus & train stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme



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www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies



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01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)



Lantra 12 A/B and 12 D Operatives wanted. £10-£12p/h Around Kent area.

General Industrial Temps required,
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Roll On/Off, PCV and Dray Drivers
required for various temporary assignments
in Kent. Digi card and previous experience
preferred but not essential, up to £9.50 p/h.

For information on these and other vacancies
please call on **01622 664999**

Career Opportunities

Sheppey College is an equal opportunities employer

Sheppey
College

Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success.

Vocational Team Leader Construction

SH/VCT5

18.5 hours per week, salary starting at £27,209 pro rata per annum.

Lecturer Hairdressing

09/46 & 09/47

2 x posts at 18.5 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum.
One Year Fixed Term Posts.

Lecturer Construction

09/48

18.5 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum.

Lecturer Administration

09/49

9.25 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum.

Lecturer ICT

09/50

9.25 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum.

Trainer Demonstrator Construction

07/07

18.5 hours per week, 38 weeks term time. Salary starting at £18,963 pro rata per annum.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 03 August 2009 at 12 noon

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

Staff benefits include:

- Pension & Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to main bus & train stations
- Close to Town Centre



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CALL

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Adastra is part of the fast growing Advanced Computer Software Plc Group.

Adastra Software Ltd
Unit 4
Eurogate Business Park
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Kent TN24 8SB

www.adastra.com



Adastra's marketing team is involved in a wide range of challenging and exciting activities and we are looking for individuals that will be prepared to travel occasionally, will work well as part of a team, have outgoing personalities, the ability to communicate at all levels and enjoy participating in all parts of the marketing mix.

Marketing Executive Ref: ME0709

This challenging and diverse role requires you to demonstrate the ability to successfully multi-task, have excellent organisational skills and 2-3 years proven experience in:

- Direct Marketing
- Communications
- Event Management
- Desktop Publishing
- Corporate Website Maintenance
- Marketing of IT Solutions
- Lead Management

Marketing Assistant Ref: MA0709

This position will be vital to the smooth running of our very busy team. It would suit someone with a real 'can do' attitude and a keen eye for detail. The ideal candidate will have previous marketing experience and be able to demonstrate excellent MS Office skills to include Excel and Access. They will also have experience of office administration and be able to confidently participate in a whole host of other marketing led activities.

Starting Salaries: Attractive package available to suitably qualified candidates.

Please send your CV including covering letter, clearly stating which position you are applying for along with your salary expectations to Emma Dew, Marketing Manager at the address on the left or by e-mail to: marketing@adastra.com

Closing Date: 31st July 2009



From U-Bends to you teach

Lecturer in Plumbing

£24,509 - £32,343 pa
Tunbridge Wells

You are an experienced plumber with recognised industry qualifications and some training or teaching experience. So take on a whole new challenge - and enjoy a genuinely rewarding role as you pass on your skills to tomorrow's tradespeople.

Teaching on courses at a range of levels, you will need to be a strong communicator who can engage, inspire and enthuse every one of our students. Of course, you must have first-rate practical skills - as well as a good knowledge of current industry practice.

In return, we will give you all the support you need to develop your teaching career with one of the most successful colleges in the south east. There are also excellent benefits including generous annual leave, final salary pension, flexible working options and private health plan.

To find out more, view our full list of opportunities and apply online, visit www.wkc.ac.uk Alternatively call 01732 376511 or email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk Please quote ref: KOS08

Closing date: 12 noon on Tuesday 4th August 2009

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Marketing Co-ordinator

We require a hands-on professional with a dynamic flair for marketing and promotions, from strategy through to the delivery of campaigns, internal/external advertising and events.

You will be expected to provide a clear track record of successful marketing initiatives and, in working closely with the General Manager, bring with you not only an endless amount of energy but also commercially astute business acumen.

A competitive package is available for the successful candidate, along with other benefits.

**To apply please email a covering letter and your CV to
Martin McNamara at gm@hildenpark.co.uk
Closing Date: 2nd August 2009**



ETHELBERT CHILDRENS SERVICES

"Working and Caring for Children since 1972"

Area Manager Kent

We are seeking to appoint an Area Manager to join our senior management team in Kent. The role is to ensure the Registered Managers are supported and developed in delivering a high level of childcare within our residential homes across Kent and into SE London

Essential Specification:

A firm foundation in childcare with a Dip.SW / RMA or equivalent qualification.

Substantial knowledge and experience of supporting children who 'are looked after' and the ECM Framework.

Previous Residential / Social work management experience.

A good knowledge and working understanding of National Minimum Standards and the Ofsted inspection process.

Strong motivation and leadership skills.

This role offers an excellent salary (dependant on knowledge and qualifications) and benefit package.

Home Managers

Wanting to further your career? We invite applications from knowledgeable and qualified candidates for this role to ensure that our high level of care practice is maintained within existing staff teams. You will be responsible for ensuring that you lead and develop your team, to meet our expectations on the service our organisation support.

The role offers good salary and benefit packages, including Health Plan, Pension and support from Area Managers.

Please contact the Personnel Department for an application form:
**Cheesemans Farmhouse, Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BZ
01843 823762 or email jackie.branden@ethelberthomes.co.uk**

We are an equal opportunities employer



The Royal School of Military Engineering, Chatham

Exciting opportunities for 2009

Air Conditioning & Refrigeration (ACR) Instructor - **c£30k plus package**

MKC Training Services Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of MidKent College, delivers the trade, technical and professional training for the Royal Engineers at Brompton Barracks. This 30 year contract was awarded in 2008 and following a review we now require an additional ACR Instructor to join our team at the RSME.

This is a great opportunity for a qualified and experienced ACR Engineer to move into a teaching role in a professional and disciplined environment where you will find young soldiers eager to learn. You do not need to have formal teaching experience as you will be supported to gain teaching qualifications and will attend relevant courses to build your communication skills.

You should hold City & Guilds 207/2570 or NVQ Level 3 - Air Conditioning and Refrigeration or equivalent and have completed an indentured apprenticeship. (Applications would be welcomed from any Royal Engineer Class1 - HVAC/ACR)

A full Job Description and Application form can be found at www.midkent.ac.uk (follow RSME vacancies) or you can forward a CV to ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk

To discuss your interest in this post or for additional information, please call Ken Pullan on 07725128661. Completed applications should be forwarded to ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk

Closing date: 10th August 2009



MKC Training Services Limited
at The Royal School of Military Engineering

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

MKC Training Services is an equal opportunities employer

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Read about Kent's leading companies, view their current job vacancies and contact them with your details.



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Use our tools and create a first class CV. See how good your CV is and take advantage of a free CV review.



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CRICKET

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Kent Cricket League Division One
Lordswood 1st XI v Orpington 1st XI

LYNDON Lockhart's rapid century maintained Lordswood's procession to the Division One title as Orpington were beaten by 83 runs at Martin Grove.

Lockhart's 108 came from just 107 balls and helped the hosts to a total which was well beyond the relegation-threatened visitors.

The Lords came into Saturday's game unbeaten in their ten league fixtures, with the majority of victories coming when batting second. Perhaps with this in mind, Orpington opted to put their opponents in first after winning the toss.

Although the home side lost Alan Pattenden cheaply, the decision appeared to have backfired as Chris Thompson and Lockhart quickly piled on the runs. Dylan Robertson briefly put the game in the balance as he ran out Thompson for 51 and then removed Efen Cruz and Jeremy Greaves in quick succession.

But as so often happens with a team in form, when others fail someone steps up. Matt Iles put on 102 with Lockhart for the fifth wicket to restore order and Lordswood eventually finished on 277 for 7.

In reply, Orpington were never able to put together the substantial partnership needed to put pressure on Lordswood. After a gritty start, Darren Scott took two wickets in quick succession to reduce the visitors to 105 for 6, leaving Orpington with a mountain to climb.

The Lords used eight bowlers, six of whom took wickets as Orpington eventually succumbed in the 45th over. A tenth victory in 11 games saw Lordswood extend their lead to a commanding 66 points.

Division one title is in sight for in-form Lords



CELEBRATION: Lordswood's title charge shows no signs of slowing after they beat Orpington on Saturday

SCOREBOARD**Lordswood**

	Runs
Chris Thompson run out	51
Alan Pattenden lbw b Ingram	9
Lyndon Lockhart ct Joseph b Bradford	108
Efen Cruz ct Hall b Robertson	1
Jeremy Greaves ct Schmidt b Robertson	0
Matt Iles ct Clarkson b Bradford	55
Peter Stock b Knight	13
Darren Scott not out	9
James Iles not out	4
Richard Cross did not bat	
Daniel Masters did not bat	
Extras (7lb 16w 4nb)	27
Total (7 wickets, 50 overs)	277

Picture: GOR KRCPO

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Patrick Joseph	4	0	20	0
Stephen Ingram	8	1	35	1
Neil Bradford	11	0	57	2
Paul Schmidt	3	0	30	0
Sam Clarkson	12	0	56	0
Dylan Robertson	8	1	37	2
Michael Knight	4	0	35	1

Orpington

	Runs
Patrick Joseph b J Iles	24
Paul Sheddin ct Cruz b Masters	2
Dylan Robertson ct Thompson b Scott	42
Paul Schmidt b Thompson	7
Sam Clarkson ct J Iles b M Iles	16
Michael Knight b Scott	4
Simon Whitehead b Greaves	21
Alex Watts ct Scott b Scott	34
Stephen Ingram run out	0
Neil Bradford not out	27
Richard Hall run out	1
Extras (4b 2lb 5w 5nb)	16
Total (all out, 44.3 overs)	194

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Daniel Masters	5	1	28	1
James Iles	6	2	17	1
Chris Thompson	4	0	26	1
Richard Cross	8	0	42	0
Matt Iles	1	1	0	1
Darren Scott	13	5	37	3
Peter Stock	2	1	3	0
Jeremy Greaves	5.3	0	35	1

LOCAL CRICKET ROUND-UP**KENT LEAGUE DIVISION THREE**
Upchurch 1st XI v Old Colfeians 1st XI

FOR the third time in four weeks Upchurch were left reeling their luck after the weather intervened to end their game abruptly.

Batting first, all Upchurch's batsmen got starts but were unable to convert them into a big score. It was still enough to give their bowlers something to defend.

The visitors were on the ropes at 161 for 8, but with four overs remaining the game was again brought to an unsatisfactory conclusion. Thanks to results elsewhere, Upchurch's lead remains 13 points.

Upchurch

		Runs
Lee Taylor	ct Gratton b Begg	35
Andrew Shirley	b Wijesiriwardena	20
Hal Pearson	lbw b Humm	38
Michael Hales jnr	ct Begg b Wijesiriwardena	21
Marc Bond	ct Quilter b Wijesiriwardena	33
Daniel Parker	ct Tarrant b Cullum	16
Michael Hales	b Wijesiriwardena	13
Adam Hodder	ct Harmer b Humm	8
Dean Headley	ct Bahra b Humm	6
Craig Bewick	ct Lorimer b Humm	4
Tim Mullis	not out.	1
Extras	(8b 18lb 2w)	28
Total	(all out, 50 overs)	223

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Omesh Wijesiriwardena	15	2	48	4
Henry Cullum	12	4	31	1
Irfan Begg	6	0	37	1
Travis Houston	5	2	16	0
Russell Humm	12	1	65	4

Old Colfeians

		Runs
Doug Gratton	lbw b Parker	35
Richard Harmer	run out Hales jnr	3
Travis Houston	b Hales jnr	60
Mark Quilter	lbw b Hodder	1
Matt Lorimer	st Shirley b Mullis	21
Irfan Begg	lbw b Hales jnr	1
Omesh Wijesiriwardena	ct Hodder b Mullis	7
Manjeet Bahra	ct Taylor b Headley	8
Christopher Tarrant	not out	14
Henry Cullum	not out	0
Russell Humm	did not bat	
Extras	(6b 2lb 3w)	11
Total	(8 wickets, 46 overs)	161

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Marc Bond	8	2	18	0
Craig Bewick	7	0	27	0
Daniel Parker	10	3	25	1
Adam Hodder	10	0	38	1
Tim Mullis	5	0	14	2
Michael Hales jnr	5	1	29	2
Dean Headley	1	0	2	1

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR
Walmer 1st XI v Rainham 1st XI

MARK Parnells unbeaten half-century proved decisive as Walmer beat promotion-chasing Rainham by four wickets.

Rainham stumbled to 9 for 2, but Matt Goodwin (47) and James Austin (41) put them right back into the game. Despite a series of useful contributions, the visitors' total looked vulnerable.

Walmer, who went into the game just above the bottom two, grasped their opportunity for an upset. Parnells 66 was instrumental and they reached their target with three overs to spare.

Rainham

		Runs
Jonathan Prince	lbw b Butler	1
John Newton	b Holiday	0
Matt Goodwin	ct Butler b Butler	47
James Austin	ct Holiday b Butler	41
Callum Mitchell	ct Morris b Butler	20
James Sherrod	not out	31
Chris Small	ct Butler b Huntley	13
Stuart Chipperfield	ct Parnell b Holiday	20
Stuart Swaine	not out	6
Jordan Shersby	did not bat	2
Matthew Newton	did not bat	2

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Paul Butler	8	2	24	1
Paul Holiday	12	3	52	2
Barry Green	4	0	22	0
Stuart Butler	13	0	49	3
Peter Huntley	13	2	41	1

Walmer

	Runs
Martyn North	ct Shersby b Mitchell 17
Joe Wilcox	b Sherhod 16
Peter Morris	ct Austin b Mitchell 9
Jared Bond	ct Austin b Sherhod 31
Mark Parnell	not out 66
Martin Pearce	lbw b Sherhod 0
Stuart Butler	ct Austin b Mitchell 21
Paul Holiday	not out 7
Barry Green	did not bat
Peter Huntley	did not bat
Paul Butler	did not bat

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Callum Mitchell	14	3	41	3
Jordan Shersby	2	0	12	0
James Sherrod	15	0	45	3
Chris Small	8	0	38	0
Matthew Newton	6	0	38	0
Jonathan Prince	2	0	12	0

KENT FEEDER LEAGUE EAST 1A
Frindsbury 1st XI v Bobbing Court & Lower Halstow 1st XI

A DECENT all-round display saw Frindsbury easily beat Bobbing Court by five wickets on Saturday.

The visitors' openers put on 58 for the first wicket and passed 100 with only two down, but a monumental collapse saw them lose eight wickets for just 21 runs. Dhaivat Mehta led a superb fielding effort, instigating two run outs.

Frindsbury's top order failed to trouble the scorers unduly. Sam Dudgeon's 57 steadied the innings and they got home with almost seven overs still remaining.

Bobbing Court and Lower Halstow

Richard Gower	lbw b Dudgeon	39
Adam Haward	ct Elliott b Budd	40
Gary Ryan	run out	1
Jehaan Thahir	b Payne	20
Daniel Ball	ct Sait b Payne	3
Iain Foster	b Budd	4
Simon Bennett	run out	1
Paul Bacon	ct Muttell b Budd	6
Ian Linsdell	lbw b Mumford	2
Dominic Soave	b Mumford	2
Craig Haward	not out	0

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Chris Mumford	8.2	2	16	2
Robbie Elliott	12	3	30	2
Sam Dudgeon	7	1	28	0
Ian Budd	9	0	22	1
	9	1	24	3

Frindsbury

Dhaivat Mehta	.b Bacon	Runs 8
Shivajith Muttel	.ct Haward b Bacon	7
Robert Sait	.ct Thahir b Bacon	0
Sam Dudgeon	.ct Haward b Soave	57
Sam Budd	.b Bacon	29
Ian Budd	.not out	4
Peter Elswood	.not out	6
Dan Reeves	.did not bat	
Chris Mumford	.did not bat	
Matt Payne	.did not bat	
Robbie Elliott	.did not bat	

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Paul Bacon	12	4	21	4
Simon Bennett	6	1	23	0
Jehaan Thahir	10.1	1	38	0
Ian Linsdell	3	0	16	0
Dominic Soave	8	0	19	1

KENT FEEDER LEAGUE EAST 1B
Borstal 1st XI v Blue Bell Hill 1st XI

TOM Highsted hit a half-century as Blue Bell Hill beat near neighbours Borstal to stay in the promotion places.

Leigh Short took 3 for 27 as Borstal stumbled to 150 for 9 from their allocation. Opener Amjad Hussain top scored with 44 but significantly none of his team-mates passed 25.

Blue Bell Hill openers Ben Arnold and Ian Hayward got the visitors off to a good start and Tom Highsted's unbeaten 53 saw them home with time to spare.

Borstal

	Runs
Amjad Hussain	lbw b Short 44
Simon Harding	b Underwood 10
Mark Tandy	run out 6
Nick Francis	ct B Highsted b Underwood 21
Sohrab Peerbaccus	ct Brivio b Short 8
Arshad Hussain	ct B Highsted b Brivio 14
Majid Arshad	ct Underwood b Short 13
Mark Stevens	st Highsted b Brivio 5
Fred Tippett	run out 7
Adam Mahomed	not out 3
Alex Francis	not out 0
Extras	(2b 7lb 10w) 19
Total	(9 wickets, 46 overs) 150

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
James Underwood	12	2	38	2
Paul Fookes	12	2	36	0
Ian Hayward	7	1	26	0
Leigh Short	11	4	27	3
Paul Brivio	4	0	13	2

Blue Bell Hill

	Runs
Ben Arnold	lbw b Hussain 24
Ian Hayward	ct Peerbaccus b Stevens 28
Jack Brivio	b Stevens 7
Tom Highsted	not out 53
Russell Booth	ct Francis b Stevens 3
Leigh Short	ct Tandy b Mahomed 21
Paul Fookes	not out 0
Ben Highsted	did not bat
Paul Brivio	did not bat
Dominic Anderson	did not bat
James Underwood	did not bat

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Majid Arshad	5	0	33	0
Adam Mahomed	7	2	28	1
Mark Stevens	12	1	51	3
Amjad Hussain	12	4	34	1

Jackson helps claim victory over Dutch

Pictures: ADY KERRY



FULL FLOW: Ashley Jackson in action against the Netherlands

ASHLEY Jackson helped England beat European champions the Netherlands for the first time in five years on Sunday.

The 21-year-old, from Chatham, started the 3-2 win at Bisham Abbey in the one-off Test, which formed part of the side's warm-up for next month's European Championships.

England got off to a great start, opening the scoring after eight minutes. James Tindall won the ball in the Dutch half to start a move which saw the midfielder slot into an empty net.

Matt Daly doubled the lead midway through the half but the visitors pulled a goal back from a penalty corner shortly afterwards.

Jackson, who will have been familiar with most of the opponents since moving to play his club hockey with HGC in the

HOCKEY

Netherlands, almost scored just after the break. Richard Alexander flashed in a cross at pace, but the midfielder just failed to connect. He made amends shortly afterwards by beating two men and playing in Daly to score his second to make it 3-1.

The Netherlands again reduced the deficit from a penalty corner. It was the start of a concerted spell of pressure, but England held firm largely thanks to several good stops from goalkeeper James Fair.

Jackson will hope to be involved as England step up their preparations for the European Championships when they face India in a three game series at the University of Birmingham next week.

HOCKEY



Picture: ADY KERRY

LATE: Chatham will finally begin their games tomorrow

Chats boss hopes new squad won't be undercooked

CHATHAM Town manager Alex O'Brien is hoping his side's late start to pre-season friendlies will not mean they will be under-prepared when the league season starts next month.

With a change of management at Maidstone Road, the Chats did not begin pre-season training until just over a fortnight ago. While many sides have already got several games under their belts, Town will start their games tomorrow night with a rearranged game at Holmesdale after Lordswood cancelled the original fixture due to concerns about their pitch.

O'Brien will have six games to assess his squad, which he admits is not perfect.

"We're a bit behind on our match fitness", he told Yourmedway. "We've been working hard in training and I'm happy with the levels but matches give you another gear."

"Unfortunately the way the summer ended up we couldn't get everyone together until the seventh, but ideally we would have liked it to be a week earlier. I think we'll be as ready as we can be for the start of the season, but the players need games to bond."

One boost is the confirmation of the club's game against League Two side Dagenham & Redbridge. The fixture on August 4 is unlikely to contain many of the club's first-team players, but O'Brien believes it will be a useful exercise.

He said: "It will be a fantastic opportunity for the boys. With games against Football League sides you never quite know who they will bring until the day, but whoever plays they will still be professionals."

Town's squad continues to come together, with two more players set to sign this week. The versatile Ray Powell, former Tonbridge Angels and Dartford, can play at right-back or up front, while goalkeeper Dean Ruddy has joined up with the squad after spells at Lewes and Dover.



FIRST IMPRESSIONS: Jack Payne has been a success during pre-season, but the club may have to concede defeat in their hope of signing promising full-back Jordan Parkes



Pictures: ADY KERRY

Rooney and Payne give glimpse of bright future

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

TEENAGERS Luke Rooney and Jack Payne have been the major surprises in the first half of Gillingham's pre-season, according to manager Mark Stimson.

The Gills boss used the club's first four games, which ended with a 2-0 defeat at Welling on Saturday, to have a good look at everyone in his squad. More than 25 players were given an opportunity to impress in the first week of games. After making his initial assessments, Stimson will now begin to formu-

late his plans for his strongest line-up ahead of the first competitive game of the season in just over a fortnight.

Of the players involved, Stimson highlighted the 18-year-old Rooney – who scored in the first three games – and Jack Payne, 17, as the players who had done the most to move up the pecking order.

He said: "I think Rooney has done really well. He's been very good and very bright. Jack Payne has done well for a young kid in that area of the pitch and I think he could learn from Kevin Maher. The rest have given me what I thought they would if I'm honest."

The squad head to northern France for a training camp tomorrow and could well have at least one new signing among their ranks.

Stimson was hoping to offer trialist Rashid Yussuf a contract earlier this week after a series of composed displays in midfield.

Right-back Sam Long may also be given a deal but Watford's Jordan Parkes may have to move on.

Stimson said: "I understand there's another League One club who can guarantee him a left-back starting role. It's up to the lad to decide because I can't guarantee him that. The other two have potential, they are still learning the game and financially that's the market we're involved in."

The Gills are also hoping to add a centre-back and at least one striker to the squad over the next fortnight. They are due to make a decision on bringing in a defender from another League One side on a short-term loan deal this week.

The Gills were in action at Bishop's Stortford last night. Log on to www.yourmedway.co.uk for the report. Stimson's side visit Aveley this evening, kick-off is at 7.45pm.

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Enjoy your barbeque in safety

WHAT better way to enjoy a balmy evening than some healthy barbecue food with friends?

Just don't become one of the 965 cases of people in east Kent turned up at accident and emergency with food poisoning last year – that doesn't include those who suffered nasty fire-related injuries either!

When you're cooking on a barbecue, make sure you:

19. Place your barbecue on a level surface, away from plants and trees.
20. Cover the bottom of your barbecue with coal to a depth of no more than 5cm (2in).
21. Use only recognised firelighters or starter fuel, and then only on cold coals.
22. Wait until coals are glowing red with a powdery grey surface before you start cooking.
23. Wash your hands every time you touch raw meat and keep it separate from other foods.
24. Properly thaw frozen meat before you cook it.
25. Turn meat regularly and move it around the barbecue to cook it evenly.
26. Remember that meat is safe to eat only when it is piping hot in the centre, there is no pink meat visible and the juices are clear.
27. Keep prepared food in the fridge wherever possible and don't leave it out in the sun.

Avoid bringing back the worst kind of souvenir

A sexually transmitted infection (STI) or unintended pregnancy can be the worst kind of souvenir to bring home. Last year, more than 2,500 sexually transmitted infections were diagnosed in east Kent genitourinary medicine clinics.

28. Always buy a pack of condoms in addition to your normal contraception.
29. Vomiting, diarrhoea, and some medicines, including some antibiotics and some anti-malaria drugs can make the contraceptive pill and some contraceptive implants less effective so always use a condom to help protect against pregnancy and STIs.
30. Only buy condoms with the CE mark on the packet.
31. Keep condoms away from oil-based products such as suntan lotion, baby oil and lipstick.
32. Store condoms in a cool, dry place.

*** For more help and advice on safer sex, visit your pharmacist, call Sexual Health Direct on 0845 122 8690 or go to www.condomessentialwear.co.uk**

A real stinger

For most people, stings and bites from insects are painful but harmless. However, if you also experience symptoms anywhere else you may be having an allergic reaction and should seek emergency medical treatment.

33. Remove the sting as soon as possible with your fingers or tweezers.
34. Bee stings have a poisonous sac so take care not to puncture it as you remove the sting.
35. Wash the area with soap and water.
36. Put a cold flannel on the area.
37. Raise the part of the body that has been stung or bitten to prevent swelling.
38. Use a spray, or cream, containing local anaesthetic or antihistamine on the affected area to help prevent itching and swelling.
39. Take painkillers, such as paracetamol (if the sting or bite is very painful).
40. Don't scratch the area, as it may become infected.
41. Consult your GP if redness and itching does not clear up after 48 hours.

Have fun outdoors in safety

Summer is a great time for children to get out and experience the world around them. You do need to be aware of safety issues, but this isn't a reason to stop children enjoying activities.

42. Nominate a responsible adult to supervise the children at parties and barbecues.
43. Make sure one adult stays sober to supervise the children.
44. Ask hosts to place medicines and cleaning products out of sight and out of reach.
45. Check the garden regularly for potential hazards, such as tools, ponds or water butts.
46. If children are around barbecues, watch that they don't get too close to hot surfaces.
47. Protect your child from the sun.
48. Be safe around water with your child.
49. Consider taking a first aid course.
50. Follow all these simple steps and you be guaranteed a fun and action-packed summer in the sun.

For more help and advice visit your local pharmacist, call NHS Direct on 0845 46 47 or go to www.nhs.uk

take the...



right...



steps to...



For more help and advice from protecting yourself this summer,
visit your local pharmacist, call **NHS Direct** on

0845 46 47

or visit **NHS Choices** online at **www.nhs.uk**



stay safe